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Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015 | High 7°C/Low 1°C Cloudy with more showers

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

FOOD TRUCKS SERVED A WIN

Why more mobile eats may be on their way to city streets.

metronews

Demo date set for North Market

ST. LAWRENCE

Old building slated to come down after the Pan Am Games

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Big changes are happening at the St. Lawrence Market, and all the pieces are in place for the first time.

The redevelopment of the North Market has begun, and it's been revealed the old building will likely be demolished after this fall's Pan Am Games.

Changes are already visible: Just a short distance to the south, construction of a temporary marketplace is underway.

Passersby can see the temporary market tent going up, and the city hopes to have farmers selling their food in it before the beginning of the Games in July, said Coun. Pam McConnell.

When the farmers market is operating in the temporary space, the first phase of the architectural exploration of the old north market building can begin, she said, adding the building of the new market should begin in the 2016 spring construction season and take a year and a half.

The market was initially slated to open in 2014, but the architectural design, which had won an international contest, required changes that took extra time and money, including adding an extra floor of parking because of problems with the support columns, said McConnell.

"The timeline is only as good as the architectural design," she said, adding the city is working on finding space for craft vendors to continue to sell their wares in the market area.

They have been displaced in the redevelopment process because there are too many farmers for the capacity of the replacement tent, so the farmers are going into the spaces on the first level of the south market, where the crafts people had space.

MODERN TITANIC
Horrific migrant death toll
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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Family of three-year-old liver-transplant recipient gives thanks **Canada News**

HOUSING

Tenants struggling with hydro charges

Tenants in a downtown Toronto Community Housing development are struggling to cope after being slapped with unexpectedly high hydro bills this winter. In some cases the bills were hundreds of dollars more than their rent, and several residents say having to make the payments left them without money for other essentials such as food.

Winifred Hendricks is one of the affected residents of Simcoe St. Patrick, a two-tower TCHC complex near Dundas Street West and University Avenue. The 89-year-old lives by herself in a one-bedroom apartment, but despite her modest circumstances she received a bill from Toronto Hydro for $641.37.

"I was shocked when I saw it," she said of the charge, which covered a two-month period between Dec. 19 and Feb. 23.

Hendricks lives on a fixed income of about $1,500 a month, $461 of which goes toward rent. She also has regular medical expenses related to diabetes.

"When I pay that (hydro bill) and I pay my rent, I have nothing to eat," she said.

Mai Hoang received a bill for $596.31. The 85-year-old, who pays $376 in rent, said that when the hydro payment was automatically deducted from her bank account she had "no money for food."

A 65-year-old woman had a bill for $554.15, while a widower living alone in a two-bedroom apartment was charged $708.54.

Lisa Gregg, Simcoe St. Patrick's tenant representative, believes inadequate insulation around apartment windows and doors, coupled with the building's electric heating system, is to blame.

But TCHC spokeswoman Sara Goldvine suggests the two buildings are in fine shape. The complex underwent energy efficiency upgrades in 2011, which included new weather-stripping, and the agency's latest building assessment determined the windows are in good condition and won't need to be replaced until 2026.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CONSUMPTION

Toronto Hydro spokeswoman Tori Gass wouldn't comment on whether the bills were excessive, but said the agency had been expecting an increase in power consumption this winter because of the unusually cold weather.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Father charged in baby girl's death

Peel Regional Police have charged a Brampton father after his 21-month-old daughter died late Monday night.

Officers responded to a report of an unresponsive child, in a call that police say the father himself made, at a home on Pappain Crescent in Brampton just before 11:30 p.m. Monday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fatal crash victim named

The 15-year-old girl who died after a two-vehicle collision in Brampton early Tuesday has been identified as Brampton resident Savanna Ginsberg.

A minivan and a pickup truck collided around 1 a.m. at the intersection of Torbram Rd. and Queen St. The girl was a passenger in the back seat of one of the vehicles, police said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Roger Cattell is part of the campaign to control traffic in North Leaside. Efforts have included community campaigns urging motorists to take the pedal off the metal. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

It's time to cut traffic, community declares

SAFETY

Problem area is where girl was killed by car last year

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Ward 26 Coun. Jon Burnside wants to do away with traffic congestion in North Leaside.

"We are trying to identify any kind of efforts we can undertake to reduce traffic volumes," said Burnside, following this week's meeting with a special community committee looking into traffic issues.

> **We need to take action now.**
> Jon Burnside

The committee established that the main traffic problems are around Eglinton, he said. Every driver trying to go across the city has to funnel through Eglinton in the Leaside area, because neither Lawrence nor St. Clair avenue cuts across, he said.

The fear, he noted, is that it's only going to get worse. Metrolinx has a project coming around Eglinton and Bayview intersection, there's a major development of a Sunnybrook Plaza and there's a Walmart and SmartCentres development on Laird Avenue among other construction projects.

"We need to take action now," said Burnside, whose motion seeking the use of stop sign video cameras was passed by the city's public works committee and is expected to hit council on May 4.

Efforts for increased traffic regulations in the Leaside community come on the heels of last summer's tragic death of Georgia Walsh. The seven-year old daughter of Conservative party president John Walsh was hit by a car as she was crossing the intersection of McCrae Drive and Millwood Road, just a few blocks south of Eglinton East.

"That was a real tragedy," said Burnside. "But the concerns about traffic in the neighbourhood predated that incident."

Potential solutions could come from additional road signage and increased enforcement from the police, he said. Another strategy could be to institute more one-way streets in the community and see if that can be more convenient.

"Ultimately the main thing is about driver behaviour," he said.

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Earth Day advice: The many ways to light up your home

The incandescent

PRO
These are the normal light bulbs we all grew up with. They produce a nice, warm light. Plus, they're cheap and easy to buy.

CON
By today's standards, they're extremely inefficient, leading to higher hydro bills. They also must be replaced once or twice a year.

Fluorescent

PRO
They're a little more efficient than your old-fashioned incandescent and last about three years.

CON
Most don't dim, and those that do don't dim well. They produce an unattractive cool or bluish light. The few fluorescent bulbs advertised as "warm" often produce a light that's "weirdly orange."

Bryan Balgobind is a lighting consultant and owner of Ultra Lighting on Spadina Ave. south of Queen St. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

ENVIRONMENT

Shedding some light on energy efficient light bulbs

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

If you plan to celebrate Earth Day by buying energy-efficient light bulbs, there are a few things you need to know.

These are both the best of times and the worst of times in lighting because there are so many different environmentally friendly bulbs available, but many of them aren't any good, said interior designer Janice Lindsay.

Lindsay, who specializes in colour design at her Toronto company Pink, said the one sure way to hate the colours you've chosen for your home is to buy bad lighting.

"You can do something that looks beautiful in daylight and you come home at night and turn on your cheap compact fluorescent, or bad LED, and that beautiful colour will look lurid," she said. "You'll think, 'Why the hell did I choose these?'

"But it isn't bad colours; it's bad lighting."

The problem with many new energy-efficient bulbs, Lindsay said, is they produce a cool, bluish light that not only makes your colours look awful but are unpleasant enough to be "psychologically damaging."

While there are efficient lights that look good, you have to know what to look for, she said.

"LEDs used to be absolutely awful, and although there are still awful ones, they're getting better all the time," she said. "You get what you pay for."

The first and most important thing to look for is the correlated colour temperature, or CCT, which tells you how cool or warm the light is, she said.

"It's huge," she said. "I'll walk into people's homes and someone, usually the husband, has just spent a fortune on massive amounts of light, they're all LED, and it looks like you've walked into a hospital."

If the CCT isn't specified on the box, don't buy the bulb, she said. For a normal homey look, choose 2700K. A cooler, contemporary look is 3000K, but don't go any higher or you'll get the sterile hospital look, she said.

Next, check the colour rendering index, or CRI, which indicates how close the light produced is to natural light. It should be between 80 and 100, she said. A bad CRI will also skew your colour scheme.

If you're doing more work than just replacing your bulbs, you should consider lighting from the beginning and wire your home appropriately, considering what you need to light and setting up switches, with dimmers, for every area, she said.

That way, you can choose different levels of light for different purposes and only turn on what you need. Leaving the lights you don't need off and dimming the lights you do use to the right level will save energy and money.

Halogen and other similar gas lights

PRO
Halogens produce a nice well-balanced light and they're a little more efficient than incandescent lights.

CON
They're still fairly inefficient.

PITCHING IN

Want more Earth Day?
Check earthday.ca for a list of Earth-friendly events today in Toronto and across the country.

LED

PRO
The bulbs last four years at a minimum and they're ultra efficient. They can be dimmed, and the better brands — but only the better brands — produce a beautiful warm light.

CON
They're expensive, and many LED lights — especially the cheaper ones available in hardware stores — produce an unattractive cool blue light.

Filament incandescent

PRO
These are very trendy. Even though they're cool (as in hip), they produce a very warm light.

CON
They are "energy dogs," as in the most inefficient lights available.

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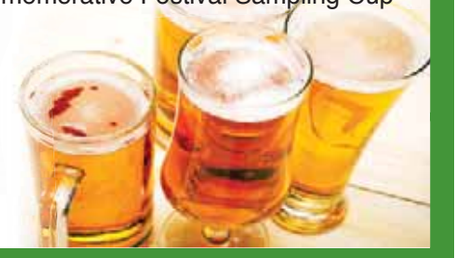

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The real meaning of poverty

CHALLENGE DAY 2

Metro reporter reflects on what the poor endure day in, day out

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

As I was fixing myself a quick dinner the other night, deep thoughts about poverty started flowing through my mind.

Not the kind of poverty I'm experiencing with the Live Below the Line challenge, but real poverty — the kind that does more than just affect the food you buy and how much of it you eat.

While pulling ingredients from my refrigerator, it suddenly occurred to me that many of the 1.2 billion people living in extreme poverty don't even have the luxury of a cool, safe place to store the groceries they can afford.

There's warm water available in my kitchen sink, which allows me to wash the food I'm about to eat.

There's electricity that powers my kitchen light and stove, both of which are switched on as I chop a tomato and onions to make mushroom soup that I will mix with beans and puree. It also means I can use a microwave to warm up my pita bread.

But somewhere in a sub-Saharan African village — where most of the people living on the poverty line are located, according to various World Bank reports on poverty — a mother trying to put food on the table for her kids doesn't have the same comfort.

She may have spent an entire day working the fields of the rich to earn money that allows her kids to attend school. Whatever is left of that money, she'll likely use to buy a meager portion of food. When it's time to cook dinner, she'll first have to find firewood, which can be a difficult chore.

If, by any chance, some food is left over after dinner, she won't have a place to keep it. By the next morning, it will be inedible.

While that may be a picture from miles away, poverty isn't any different here.

Halfway through my dinner, I remembered a man I once met in downtown Toronto.

It was around Christmastime, and I was helping a friend deliver food that served as gifts to homeless people living on the street.

The man unwrapped his hand from a blanket to receive his package as I wished him a Merry Christmas.

Looking me straight in the eyes, he thanked me and quickly asked where I was from (he must have detected my thick accent). He then told me he'd heard a lot of bad things about my home country and said he hoped things were better. I told him they were and asked him how he knew what he's just recounted.

"I read newspapers, the free ones," he said.

I hope that man has found a better life. And, if he's still reading, I want him to know that remembering the encounter brought tears to my eyes as I was finishing my dinner.

As one reader emailed to point out, I'm not truly "living below the line" while on this challenge. I'm just "eating" on the line, and it's nowhere close to what many face day in and day out.

But the experience makes my heart pound for the poor in a way it never did before.

LIVING BELOW THE LINE

The reporter: Gilbert Ngabo works for Metro in Toronto. He moved to Canada from Rwanda five years ago.

The mission: To live on just $1.75 a day for five days — a challenge made to all Canadians by the Global Poverty Project, which says that's the daily budget of those who live below the poverty line.

The series: Day 2 of 5, Gilbert Ngabo contemplates what it really means to be poor.

Follow Gilbert Ngabo on Twitter @dugilbo or at metronews.ca.

Reporter Gilbert Ngabo eats a lunch of cheese cubes and leftover soup, in the Metro News kitchen. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

GROCERIES

Convenience at a premium

Convenience is costly. The same cheese from different food stores, one in a more convenient area, cost about three times more.

1 The Havarti cheese Gilbert bought at a downtown No Frills cost less than $2.

2 The same cheese cost $5.49 at the Kitchen Table across from the Metro News office, where Gilbert works, on Yonge Street.

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City IDs worst pollution zones

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Research team creates poor air quality hot-spot map

If you're thinking of buying a home at Don Mills and Sheppard or in Riverdale, you might want to take heed. Research carried out at the University of Toronto shows that these neighbourhoods, despite being among the most desirable, are also among the most polluted in the city.

An air pollution map produced by the team pinpoints Toronto's air pollution hot spots, showing that areas near highways and major intersections can have three to four times the average amount of ultrafine particles put out by vehicle tailpipes.

High pollution areas affect both wealthy and poor neighbourhoods in the city, creating an invisible health divide that no one was aware of until now.

"We've found that the variability of exposure across the city is quite a bit larger than we expected," said Greg Evans, a professor of engineering at U of T. "It's not that there's one level of air pollution that covers the entire city; it's that people will have different levels of exposure in different parts of the city, depending on how much surrounding traffic there is."

Toronto has been declaring citywide smog alerts for years, urging Torontonians from Scarborough to Etobicoke to limit outdoor exercise during these times to protect their health. But Evans' team focused on unregulated pollutants that aren't as well understood. Because these ultrafine particulates are a relatively new area of study, exactly what concentration would constitute a health concern isn't yet known, he said.

Ultrafine particles, linked to diesel vehicles, can be twice as prevalent downwind from major roads as they are upwind, Evans said. The air pollution map accounts for daily variations by using average readings taken over an entire summer.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TRANSIT

Province will pay out $1.6B for Hurontario LRT: Minister

With her predecessor Hazel McCallion standing nearby, Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie had trouble wiping off her ear-to-ear grin as Ontario Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca announced the province will pick up the entire $1.6 billion cost of the Hurontario LRT.

Calling it a "transformational" investment "that will become that north-south spine of a regionally integrated transit system," Crombie promised the 26-stop LRT "will unleash the potential of our downtown."

Construction will begin in 2018 and the LRT will be in service by 2022, said Del Duca.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ontario Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca announces Tuesday the province will pick up the $1.6 billion cost of the Hurontario LRT during a news event at City Centre Transit Terminal in Mississauga. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Trevor Sookraj, a student leader in Peel, says he and other Grade 12 students are worried about a potential strike by high school teachers in Peel called for May 4. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Picket lines won't stop proms: PDSB

PEEL

Families also worry strike will threaten Grade 12 marks

Graduation ceremonies may be postponed to the fall, but proms will go ahead as planned if secondary teachers in Peel Region hit the picket lines in May, says the school board, which has been working on contingency plans ever since it was identified as a strike target by the union.

Proms, a social rite of passage, are one of the top three concerns Peel District School Board has heard from families also worried about final marks for Grade 12 students and the internationally run exams for teens in the enriched International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement programs.

"We view proms as a once-in-a-lifetime moment ... students have already bought dresses, bought tickets and booked everything ... we will save the 30 proms that happen in early June if the strike lasts that long," said director of communications Brian Woodland, by having principals and other board employees supervise.

The IB and AP exams will be held off-site, and affected boards have already asked the education ministry how they should handle final marks for colleges, universities or scholarships if strikes drag on, he added.

The Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation announced Tuesday that Peel's 3,500 high school teachers could walk off the job on May 4 if a local contract has not been reached.

June commencements will be put off to the fall, though many schools already schedule them at that time, Woodland said.

For the first time, the unions, school boards' associations and the Liberal government are using a two-tiered bargaining system, where costly items like salaries and class sizes are negotiated provincially, with no-cost items left to local talks.

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Food trucks get chance to bite back in turf war

CITY HALL

5-1 vote could allow vehicles to sell closer to restaurants

Food truck vendors have made a bit of progress in their fight to increase the places they're allowed to set up shop to sell their fast-food delicacies.

On Tuesday, the city's licensing committee agreed to dial back the most contentious restriction, one that dictates how close a food truck can park to a standing restaurant.

The six committee members voted 5-1 to approve a motion introduced by Councillor Josh Matlow to change that distance from 50 metres to 30 metres. Councillor Giorgio Mammoliti was alone in voting against the motion, which still needs to be approved by council in May.

"The action that we took today liberalizes our city's regulations with regards to food trucks and it allows for new creative food diversity on our streets," Matlow said after the vote. "It was important to me, and I believe the mayor, and the majority of members of the committee, that if it was possible to bring parties together rather than create a street fight over street food, that that would be our preference."

Zane Caplansky has been one of the leaders in Toronto's food truck drive. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

It's a minor compromise between those representing the interests of restaurants and food truck operators, which have failed to agree on co-existing within the downtown core.

Those like food truck advocate — and restaurateur — Zane Caplansky say the 50-metre rule essentially excluded food trucks from the downtown core, where they are likely to find the best business. Since the city enacted new rules for food trucks a year ago, only 39 vendors signed up.

Caplansky and others have argued that there is no evidence food trucks will cause the death of brick-and-mortar restaurants.

"I don't love it, but I think my members can live with it. It's progress," Caplansky said of the newly proposed 30-metre rule.

It was estimated by both sides that the number of available spaces that could open up with a 30-metre rule is between 650 and 1,200 — including some on Victoria St., near Ryerson University.

Tony Elenis, president and CEO of the Ontario Restaurant Hotel & Motel Association, says it is a struggle to make a profit in the restaurant business in this province. "Everything attacking the restaurants means less dollars to the bottom line," he said. "We are happier at 30 metres than if it was 15 metres."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EXPLOSION

Officials: Volatile liquid caused blast

Fire officials believe a "volatile, ignitable liquid" is to blame for an explosion that rocked a residential neighbourhood in Scarborough's east end Monday afternoon.

An army of emergency crews worked through the night and into this afternoon to pinpoint the fuel involved in the "gaseous" explosion that levelled a home at 3356 Brimley Rd. and left a 57-year-old man dead.

"It's unclear ... what fuel created this particular explosion," said Wayne Romaine, an investigator with the Ontario Fire Marshal's office, who spoke with reporters at the scene of the blast Tuesday. Police confirmed Paul Zigomanis was pronounced dead on the scene, and a woman was treated for minor hand injuries.

> **"We're interviewing neighbours and ... looking for the public's assistance in this investigation."**
> Insp. David Vickers

Later Tuesday, Romaine told reporters crews had finished mapping out the explosion site and would have to search through six feet of debris at the house.

There is no word whether the explosion is believed to be suspicious, but Romaine said investigators are keeping an open mind.

As crews documented the massive amount of debris where the house stood less than a day before, teams searched for gases that could have made their way through the earth into the home's basement. Romaine said the investigation involves Toronto police, Toronto Fire Services, the Technical Standards and Safety Authority, Toronto's building department, and forensic teams, who are all working to sift through the wreckage.

"It's a pretty big job. We're certainly interviewing neighbours and people around and looking for the public's assistance in this investigation," Insp. David Vickers said Tuesday.

Vickers, who was at the scene Monday night, said it's too early in the investigation for crews to determine whether criminal activity plays a role in the case.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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'Money will be ready': Oliver

BUDGET

Minister promises $1 billion for transit by 2019

The road to the next federal election is paved with promises of transit and infrastructure money. The message is that money is there but it is all contingent on the Conservative government getting re-elected later this year.

Finance Minister Joe Oliver's budget promises a Public Transit Fund of $750 million over two years starting 2017-18, increasing to $1 billion per year by 2019 per year. But details are slim, including how much Toronto can expect.

"Anyone who lives in or near our thriving and fast-growing cities knows the reality of traffic gridlock," Oliver said in his budget speech. "This fund will result in more money for more transit projects by requiring a significant role for the private sector and by allowing for a more flexible payment approach," he said.

The budget promises to continue to provide $5.35 billion per year on average for provincial, territorial and municipal infrastructure under the New Building Canada Plan.

Both the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto were looking for a serious infusion of cash from the feds for transit to continue with their ambitious multi-billion plans to improve gridlock. Toronto alone could eat up every cent in federal transit money for years to come.

Finance Minister Joe Oliver delivers the federal budget Tuesday in the House of Commons. Oliver faced questions about his decision to reduce the emergency reserve in order to balance the books. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oliver told reporters he knows it's frustrating for motorists who have to deal with gridlock but emphasized the money will be there when provinces and municipalities need it.

"In respect to the timing of this transit fund, it will be ready when it is needed. These are billion dollar projects and when they are ready … the money will be ready," he said.

The federal government, however, is looking at using the $1 billion annually when it gets there to finance transit in a different way, a government official told Torstar News Service.

Rather than traditionally contributing one-third toward a transit project, Ottawa says the province or territory would cover off the federal portion and in return the feds would pay the interest and principal on that loan over 20 or 30 years.

Federal officials says approaching it from that way means it can fund many different projects right across the country.

As for Toronto, the budget sets aside $25 million for the Harbourfront Centre, a not-for-profit organization that delivers arts, culture and recreation programming. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MAIN POINTS

- Finance Minister Joe Oliver delivered a federal budget that boasted a narrow $1.4-billion surplus for 2015-16, scoring a politically critical goal just six months before a scheduled election in October.
- To arrive at a surplus Tuesday, Oliver had to take the unusual step of draining $2 billion out of the budget's $3-billion rainy-day reserve, a cushion designed for unforeseeable events like natural disasters.
- The government received a $3.4-billion boost thanks to a surplus in the employment insurance account created by the buildup of premiums.
- Since November, another $1 billion was applied to the bottom line from the sale of the government's remaining stake in General Motors, which generated a total net gain of $2.1 billion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

$750M

$750 million over two years, starting in 2017-18, plus $1 billion a year thereafter, has been committed to a fund to promote investment in public transit systems.

$10K

The annual contribution limit to tax-free savings accounts increases to $10,000 from $5,500, effective this year.

$11.8M

The Canadian military will receive $11.8 billion over 10 years, in an increase to the baseline defence appropriation, beginning in the 2017-18 fiscal year.

$292.6M

The RCMP and Canada's spy and border agencies get a total $292.6-million over five years, providing additional resources for each agency to fight terrorism.

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Medical marijuana difficult to access

HEALTH

New legalities challenge the patience of the patients

A University of British Columbia study has found medicinal marijuana patients are struggling to access cannabis under current regulations and many are turning to the black market.

The study, led by UBC nursing Prof. Lynda Balneaves and PhD student Rielle Capler, looks at the impact of shifting federal regulations on patients who access medical pot.

Capler said abouta third of 450 patients surveyed nationally reported they could not access medical marijuana legally under the federal rules.

"They really want to be able to use this medicine legally," she said. "They've expressed patience and understanding that there are some growing pains but in the meantime, they're also sharing that it's really impacting … their health and well-being."

Medical marijuana plants at a facility in Richmond, B.C. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The old rules allowed licence holders to grow pot themselves or find designated growers and were to be replaced at the end in April 2014 by new regulations that require patients to buy cannabis from commercially licensed producers.

A court injunction has kept them alive for those already enrolled in the program until a constitutional challenge of the new rules could be heard.

That challenge was recently heard in Vancouver's Federal Court, and advocates are eagerly awaiting a decision.

Capler's team is beginning its analysis and their results are preliminary. She expects the study to shed light on who is struggling to gain legal access to pot and why.

She said one major issue was affordability, noting patients have said the old program allowed them to grow their own marijuana at a cost of about $2 a gram, compared to about $8 to $10 a gram through the new program.

Many patients are turning to dispensaries, which are abundant in Vancouver but technically illegal.

These dispensaries do require a doctor's confirmation and have standards around quality of supply. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TRANSPLANT

Family thanks donor for 'unselfishness'

Michael and Johanne Wagner can't express their gratitude enough.

The couple from Kingston, Ont., broke down in tears Tuesday as they thanked an anonymous donor who made it possible for the second of their twin daughters to receive a life-saving liver transplant.

Pausing to take deep breaths as they faced a wall of journalists at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, the Wagners said they now looked forward to a long life with their two little girls.

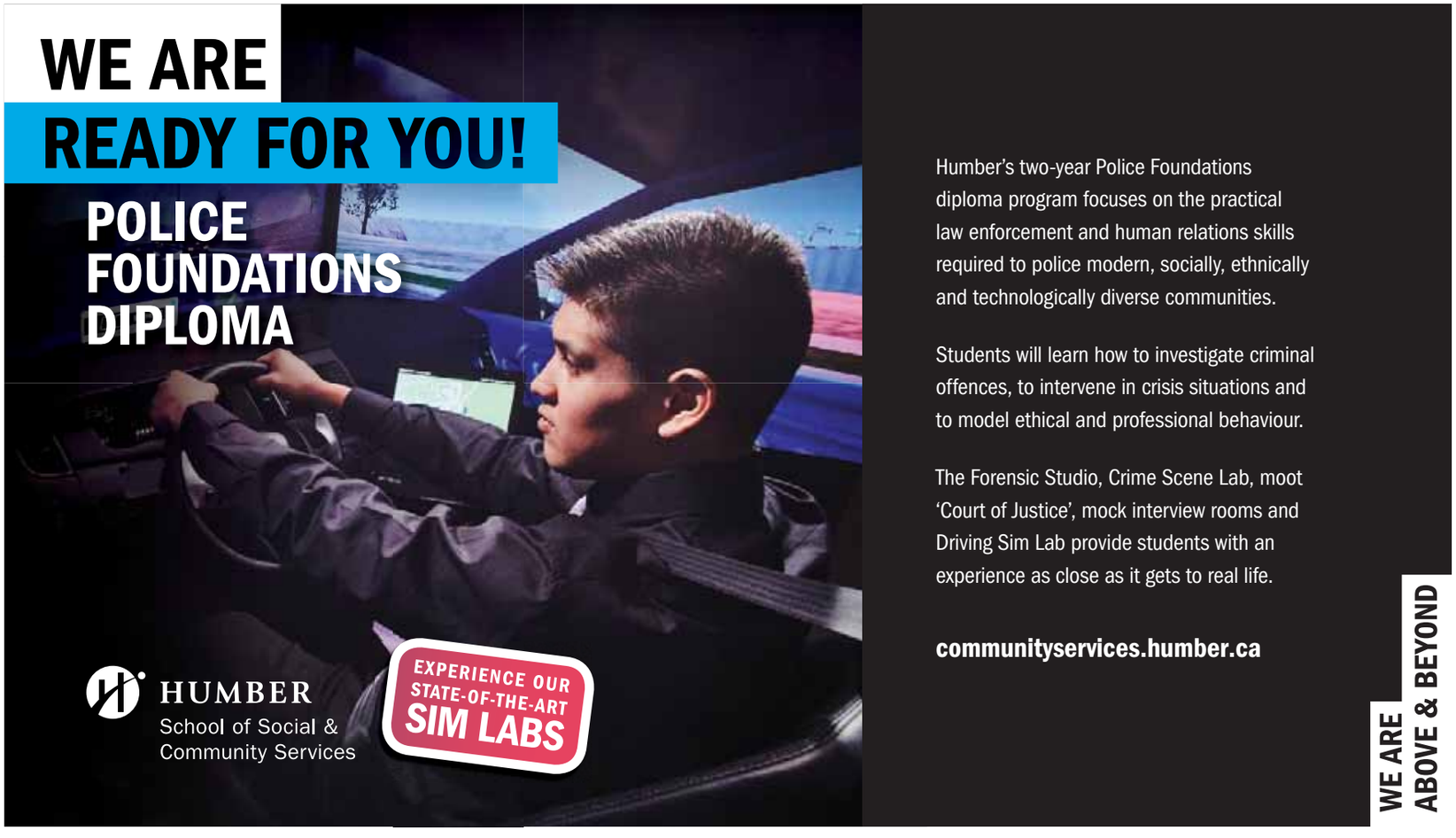
"Thank you for your unselfishness for what you've done," an emotional Johanne Wagner said as she held one of her daughters in her arms. "There's no other word than thank you."

The story of three-year-old Phuoc and Binh Wagner has tugged at heartstrings across the country and beyond.

The twin girls were 18 months old when the Wagners adopted them from Vietnam.

They both have Alagille syndrome, a genetic disorder that affects vital organs. Doctors said they would die without a liver transplant. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liver transplant patient Phuoc Wagner smiles Tuesday during a press conference at The Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning in Toronto. AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS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Smuggler said to ram ship

MIGRANT CRISIS

At least 800 perished: Witnesses

A ship with experience plucking migrants from unseaworthy smugglers' boats had arrived soon after the distress call went out. But then the fishing trawler's navigator allegedly made a manoeuvre that would seal the fate of the 850 people crammed inside: Instead of easing up alongside the merchant ship, he is alleged to have rammed it.

Relief gave way to panic. Terrified migrants rushed to one side, the trawler seized and capsized. What might have been another rescue in a period of unprecedented migrant crossings instead turned into a horrifying statistic: The deadliest shipwreck ever in the Mediterranean Sea.

The accounts of survivors who arrived early Tuesday in the port of Catania, Sicily 48 hours after the disaster offered new details of the tragedy. The traumatized witnesses corroborated a death toll of at least 800, making the capsizing "the deadliest incident in the Mediterranean that we have ever recorded," the UN refugee agency said.

Just 28 migrants, all men and boys in their teens, survived. And despite the enormous toll, only 24 bodies were recovered.

Among the survivors were two alleged smugglers, who were detained for investigation of aiding and abetting illegal immigration. The Tunisian navigator, identified as 27-year-old Mohammed Ali Malek, could also face multiple counts of manslaughter and causing a shipwreck.

Aid agencies were quick to issue another warning: At the current pace, 2015 is set to be the deadliest year on record for migrants making the perilous crossing as they flee war, repression and poverty in the Middle East and Africa. In April alone, 1,300 have died.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rescuers help children to disembarkMonday in the Sicilian harbour of Pozzallo, Italy. About 100 migrants, including 28 children, were rescued on Sunday by a merchant vessel in the Sicilian Strait while they were trying to cross. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEATH TOLL

The International Organization for Migration said the toll for the year could top 30,000 — nearly 10 times the 2014 total of 3,279, itself a record.

Italian ships have rescued well over 10,000 people over the past two weeks, an unprecedented number for such a short period, authorities say.

The rescues continued Tuesday, with another 112 migrants, all men, picked up in a deflating rubber life raft in waters some 70 kilometres north of the Libyan capital, Tripoli.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADA

Chance at freedom worth risk: Migrant

A young Sri Lankan man crammed into the cargo hold of a ship with nearly 500 others had only one thing on his mind — getting to the promised land called Canada.

Nearly five years after the vessel arrived in British Columbia, the refugee claimant says he understands the plight of hundreds of migrants who have died in the Mediterranean Sea since April 13.

The man, whose identity is protected by a publication ban, says he paid a smuggler in Thailand to board a ship full of men, women and children who feared they'd drown during a violent storm.

The man dubbed B188 in Canadian government documents says the risk of dying at sea was worth it for a shot at freedom, and it's the same chance that migrants heading from Africa to Europe are taking.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ROYAL FAMILY HAPPY BIRTHDAY, YOUR HIGHNESS Members of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery fire a salvo during a 41-gun salute on Tuesday, to celebrate the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II in London's Hyde Park. ALASTAIR GRANT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Auschwitz guard admits moral guilt

HOLOCAUST

Accused says he witnessed Jews being led to gas chambers

Former SS Sgt. Oskar Groening told a German court Tuesday that he helped keep watch as thousands of Jews were led from cattle cars directly to the gas chambers at the Auschwitz death camp where he served as a guard.

The 93-year-old, charged with 300,000 counts of accessory to murder, said as his trial opened that he witnessed individual atrocities but did not acknowledge participating in any crimes.

"I share morally in the guilt, but whether I am guilty under criminal law, you will have to decide," Groening told judges hearing the case at the Lueneburg state court in northern Germany. Under the German legal system, defendants do not enter formal pleas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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INSURANCE

Relief floods in for cancer patient

Anxiety turned to relief for an 84-year-old cancer patient on Tuesday when she learned that a major insurance company was reversing its decision not to compensate her for flood damage that occurred while she was away receiving chemotherapy.

Ivy Scotland said Grey Power Insurance, which had previously declined to pay for the $11,000 damage to her Pembroke, Ont. home, did a complete about-face.

Grey Power originally ruled that the extensive water damage caused when a pipe burst in January could not be covered under Scotland's long-held policy. The company said Scotland had failed to put someone in place to make daily checks inside her home after the first four days of her extended absence.

But an adjuster's visit yielded a different decision. In addition to shouldering all costs and beginning repair work next week, Scotland said the company has waived the $2,000 deductible, reimbursed her for the price of a contractor she hired after the flood, committed to either reupholstering or replacing certain items of furniture and even offered to take on an unrelated minor repair. THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

DOLLAR 81.43¢ (-0.34¢)

TSX 15,346.44 (-66.16)

OIL $56.61 US (+0.23)

GOLD $1,203.10 US (+$9.40)

NATURAL GAS: $2.575 US (+3.9¢)
DOW JONES: 17,949.59 (-85.34)

Twitter says its new policies will help the company police online harassment in a variety of contexts for users of the service. MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Twitter's policies target online abuse

SOCIAL MEDIA

Support team can now lock accounts over violent threats

After facing criticism over its failure to combat abusive content, Twitter has announced some changes that it hopes will make it easier to deal with negative messages.

In a blog post by Shreyas Doshi, director of product management, the company unveiled two changes to its policy: expanding the scope of its "violent threats policy" and giving more power to its support team to lock out an account for a period of time.

"We are updating our violent threats policy so that the prohibition is not limited to 'direct, specific threats of violence against others' but now extends to 'threats of violence against others or promoting violence against others.' Our previous policy was unduly narrow and limited our ability to act on certain kinds of threatening behaviour," wrote Doshi.

In terms of enforcement, Twitter's safety team can also now lock accounts for a specific period of time and give offending users options on how they may return to the service, such as deleting content or verifying a phone number to get back on the service.

"This option gives us leverage in a variety of contexts, particularly where multiple users begin harassing a particular person or group of people," wrote Doshi.

As well, the blog post mentions testing a new automated feature that aims to help find suspected abusive tweets by looking at a number of factors, including having similar content to a tweet that the company's safety team has previously determined to be abusive.

These changes have likely been in the works for a while, as last year CEO Dick Costolo wrote in an leaked internal memo: "We suck at dealing with abuse and trolls on the platform and we've sucked at it for years. It's no secret and the rest of the world talks about it every day. We lose core user after core user by not addressing simple trolling issues that they face every day." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **We suck at dealing with abuse and trolls on the platform.**
> Twitter CEO Dick Costolo, in a 2014 memo.

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metro VIEWS
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the big question

Can math save the honeybees?

Young bees who leave stressed hives too early are dying in the field — which in turn causes the whole colony to collapse, according to researchers at Western University. Grad student Matthew Betti and his team used a game-changing mathematical model to show the chain-reaction effect when a colony is threatened (by pesticides, pests, infections or parasites) and forager bees are sent out for food before they reach maturity at 14 days. When they don't return, the hive dies. Now, when beekeepers see younger bees leaving, they can test for disease or transfer healthy bees to a new hive. The results might also save us humans — forager bees pollinate plants that are responsible for $13 billion in agriculture worldwide each year.

Earth Day — when better to ask for changes at work?

THE SCIENCE
Stephanie Orford

Office garbage-can culture has got to go.

Most Canadians wouldn't dream of throwing a pop bottle or newspaper into a garbage can on the street — but too many do it at the office.

Office buildings in Canada seem to be the last stronghold of garbage-can culture. My friends and colleagues from across Canada describe workplaces that won't recycle cans, glass or plastic; some even empty the recycling boxes into the garbage.

Today, on Earth Day's 45th anniversary, much of the conversation will surround big issues such as climate change. But it's important to remember the cumulative impact of seemingly little things, like trashing a pop can.

Of course there are stellar businesses out there who take a lead in environmental sustainability, but why do so many Canadian office buildings have dubious or nonexistent recycling practices?

Although Canadian provincial and municipal governments have or are developing progressive environmental policies, office buildings remain relatively unregulated.

"By and large, municipalities aren't in the business of managing private-sector waste," explains Maria Kelleher, principal of Kelleher Environmental, a consulting firm based in Toronto.

"That's up to the big waste-management companies, and they provide whatever services the building owner asks them for."

Governments can offer incentives to encourage recycling. "In Toronto, where I live, the city picks up from about 14,000 commercial businesses (mostly small retail stores) on main streets. They can set out as much recycling as they want at no charge; they get green bin pickup for free."

Because the city charges for garbage pickup, she points out, there's more motivation to use the recycling and green bins.

Getting office buildings to recycle isn't as simple as imposing municipal regulations, says Kelleher, explaining that recycling bylaws depend partly on whether the municipality owns the landfill and other logistical factors.

Office-building recycling is hard to enforce, Kelleher explains. "In Ontario we have over 400,000 businesses. You'd have to go out to each of their sites to see if they're doing what they're supposed to be."

Municipal governments such as Toronto's now require new buildings to have design features that make recycling easy. But many older buildings can't accommodate it.

"What do you do if you're on the 24th floor and you're trying to gather up your newspapers and cans and bottles? It's just not that convenient," says Kelleher. Old buildings often don't have space. There's room for one bin in the basement, not four.

So what can we do to help Canadian office buildings get with the recycling program?

"It all comes down to the building owner or manager," Kelleher says. If recycling isn't happening at your office, chances are your building manager doesn't understand how important it is to you.

Speak up and tell your office or building manager you want a better recycling program. You won't get what you don't ask for.

Stephanie Orford is a Vancouver-based writer. The Science appears every other Wednesday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metroview

Small-town papers require force of will

It's easy to dismiss community journalism as a glorified newsletter. It's not.

It's a source, just like dominant media outlets, of reporting excellence.

That's been proven this week by a small-town paper in the U.S. that won a Pulitzer Prize for uncovering widespread corruption in a Los Angeles-area school district. The little-known Daily Breeze beat out the likes of the Chicago Tribune for the award.

That excellence is also in the work of Steve Bonspiel of Kahnawake, Que., population 8,000, and his newspaper The Eastern Door. Five years ago, the paper exposed a controversial plan by the local Mohawk council to evict non-native people — work that earned the paper the prestigious Michener Award and international praise.

The plan was abandoned, but tensions have continued in Kahnawake, and The Eastern Door has doggedly reported on them.

"People have taken it upon themselves to try and enforce the spirit of what they call Mohawk Law," where only native people live in the community, Bonspiel said. It's having a dramatic impact on the readers of The Eastern Door, even if the rest of the world has stopped paying attention.

"I don't think community newspapers get their due," Bonspiel told me. He's right.

Until yesterday, I'd never heard of the Daily Breeze. But I had heard of the latest CBC job cuts, which will impact small communities across the country. I had heard of two community papers closing in B.C. I know all about the falling revenue of major media companies, shrinking staff and rising pressure to pump out stories.

Investigative, long-term work, like that of the Daily Breeze and The Eastern Door, isn't economical. It takes time. It takes money. But it is crucial to communities large and small. And in many of the country's 1,000 community newspapers, it's kept alive by sheer force of will.

"You don't get into this job to make money, that's for sure," Bonspiel said. Nowhere is that more true than in community journalism, where salaries, by the estimates of Ottawa-based community newspaperman Joe Banks, start at about $32,000.

"It is my dream job; it is what I love to do," Bonspiel told me. Bonspiel could doubtless make better money doing something else. Presumably, one of the Daily Breeze's Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists already is. Rob Kuznia was reportedly having trouble paying rent on his newspaper salary, so he recently took a job in PR.

I don't blame him, but it's certainly a loss for his readers and it underlines just how lucky we all are when people like Bonspiel choose to keep making a difference over making a decent buck.

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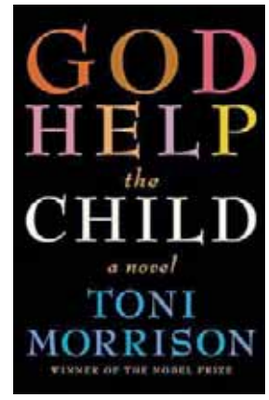
Director Xavier Dolan heading back to Cannes, this time as a jury member.

Writer's latest about 'me, me, me'

TONI MORRISON

Novel written like a modern fairy tale

While Toni Morrison's latest effort is self-referential, in general she encourages writers to stretch the imagination and write about something that they don't understand. GETTY IMAGES



Toni Morrison has written 11 novels and won all the great prizes, but found herself struggling with her new book, God Help the Child.

Much of her work, from Beloved to Jazz, has been set in the distant past. But she placed God Help the Child in a time so close, the present, she wasn't sure at first how to define it.

"It's very self-referential. One of the major things that is going on is 'Me. Me. Me, me, me. Look at me. Look at my picture. Look at my novel. I write about myself. Look at my story,"' she said during a recent interview at her downtown Manhattan apartment. "Don't get me wrong. Some of it is very good. But it's not an invention of something you don't know. It's about yourself."

There are no stand-ins for Morrison in her novel, no one who lives even remotely like the world famous, 84-year-old Nobel laureate. She has instead written a modern fairy tale, with one-name characters, magical traits and transformations and questions about race and love and how to lift the curse of self-involvement.

Bride, a blue-black woman so dark that her light-skinned mother, Sweetness, is frightened of her, is a cosmetics entrepreneur haunted by a terrible misdeed from childhood: With her mother's encouragement, she wrongfully accused a schoolteacher of sexually abusing her. Meanwhile, Bride's errant lover, Booker, has never recovered from the murder of his brother at the hands of a trusted adult, the presumed "nicest man in the world."

Bride and Booker cannot escape their troubles, or themselves. Booker is too traumatized to sustain a long-term relationship, while Bride is so crippled by doubt and self-loathing her breasts disappear.

"Memory is the worst thing about healing," Bride observes.

Morrison believes her job as a writer is to upend conventional thinking, whether about race (a social construct, she calls it), or happiness. Romantic love or professional fulfilment is the ideal resolution for most stories; Morrison favours the "acquisition of knowledge." Sweetness, for instance, has been an irresponsible mother, but at least she can acknowledge it.

Born in Lorain, Ohio, in 1931, Morrison has been a compulsive reader since childhood. She taught for several years at her alma mater, Howard University, before joining Random House in the mid-1960s as an editor when she was virtually the only black woman in the industry — a percentage that has hardly budged over the decades.

She was also a single mother who worked in her spare time on what became her debut novel, The Bluest Eye, released in 1970.

Over the next 20 years, she rose to the very top of the literary world, winning a National Book Critics Circle for the 1977 novel Song of Solomon, a Pulitzer Prize in 1988 for Beloved and the Nobel in 1993. One of her secrets, she says, is her "invisible ink," the ability to convey a message without preaching, like withholding her characters' skin colour in Paradise.

Only by freeing herself from the "white gaze," the "little critic that sits on your shoulder," could the invisible ink flow.

"There was this language and this culture and these people, and I could speak to them in the same way Tolstoy wrote about Russians," she says. "I've always thought this is not cutting out the white reader. This is just being the writer who can focus on this culture and these people and make everything in it relevant to anyone."

Writing is Morrison's path to outside of herself, but it's undertaken alone, in her imagination: The Civil War era in Beloved, the 1920s in Jazz, colonial times in A Mercy. A professor emeritus at Princeton University, she remembers telling her creative writing students, "I don't want to hear about your little lives. You don't know nothing." Instead, she would assign them stories about other times, other people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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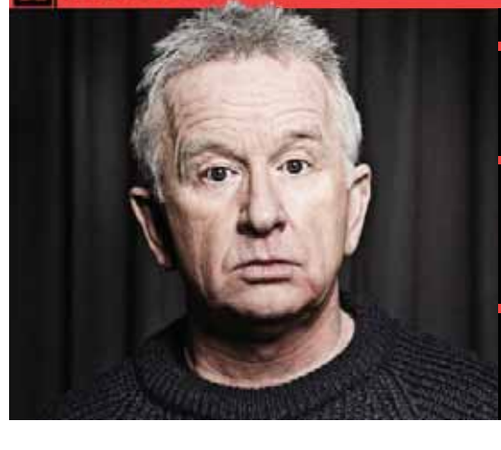

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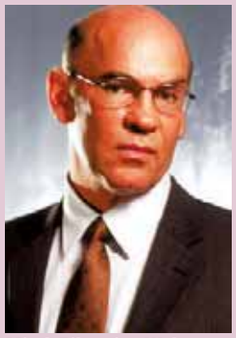
TV NEWS

Skinner joining Mulder and Scully on new X-Files

Veteran X-Files actor Mitch Pileggi is slated to return for the upcoming Fox event series, according to a tweet from the actor late Monday night.

Pileggi, who played FBI boss Walter Skinner, appeared in more than 80 episodes of the original series, and both feature films. Shooting is due to start this summer but further details have yet to be announced.

AFP



Mitch Pileggi as Walter Skinner. CONTRIBUTED

RuPaul does Good Work

INTERVIEW

The drag world's queen dishes on show, plastic surgery

Ned Ehrbar

RuPaul has never been one to shy away from a tough topic, and now is no different. The reigning queen of the drag world — already busy hosting Drag Race on Logo and judging Skin Wars on GSN — has yet another show on the air now: Good Work, an E! series that tackles plastic surgery with the help of Dr. Terry Dubrow (Botched) and Sandra Vergara (as in Sofia's sister).

With what you've seen so far on Good Work, how has it changed your own opinions or perceptions about plastic surgery?

It's actually enhanced my love of plastic surgery. I've always been obsessed with transformation, with the idea of creating your own persona, with the idea of becoming the creation of your own imagination.

It's the most powerful thing you can do. And whatever you want to do, whatever your imagination leads to, I have no judgment on it. I'm like, thumbs up to anybody who's going to take matters into their own hands. But of course, you have to be informed, and most people are not informed.

That's why we've created this dialogue on the show, and hopefully it will create a dialogue for people around the world who see this show.

What did you think of the recent passing of plastic surgeon Dr. Fredric Brandt (one of the early adopters of Botox, with many celebrity clients, Brandt committed suicide earlier this month.)

When most people uncover life's cruel hoax, which is that none of this is real — and most people cannot hear that — by the way, but I'm going to say it out loud: none of this is real. When beautiful, light, gorgeous souls understand that, it's very disheartening. And I've got to tell you, that is an option.

Nobody wants to hear it and nobody will say it out loud, but I will. You can always hit the eject button. No judgment. Especially if you are a sweet, sweet, sensitive soul, it becomes too much. This world is completely f—ed up if you take it at face value, if you take it seriously. It's completely bonkers.

You need friends around you to say, "Remember, this is just a dream. It's a joke, don't take it too seriously." So God bless him. But in our culture, there is such a taboo around what he did, but you know what? It's an option. It is an option with the bulls— that you have to put up with.

Is this show going to have kind of special language that Drag Race has developed?

Well, we are gay, so we have a special lingo for everything. Here's the thing, for gay people who have looked through the looking glass and seen the other side — you have to lighten everything up. People who have discovered life's twisted hoax find refuge in the irreverent and in the kooky and in the twist of a phrase. You twist a phrase the right way and my nipples get hard.

RuPaul's newest show is Good Work, an E! series that tackles plastic surgery.

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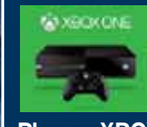

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Netflix goes home again with Full House revival

TELEVISION

The Tanner clan is back in yet another series do-over

To quote D.J., oh, Mylanta! Full House is returning with 13 new episodes on Netflix. HANDOUT

As TV networks plunder recycling bin for old shows to revive, Full House must have been at the bottom of the barrel.

Or so it would seem to those gobsmacked by news that Netflix is resuscitating the 1987-95 ABC sitcom — which, even for fans, is tenderly remembered as ephemeral fluff — for 13 new episodes revisiting the Tanners of San Francisco and retitled Fuller House. As the Full House theme song posed jauntily, "Whatever happened to predictability — the milkman, the paperboy, evening TV?"

These days, "evening TV" is gloriously unpredictable in many quarters (Louie, Game of Thrones, Mad Men and Netflix's own Orange Is the New Black, to name a bare handful).

But at the same time, television programmers are heeding the echo chamber's siren call, breathing new life (or trying) into old TV concepts refashioned as new.

Two years ago, Netflix revived the offbeat comedy Arrested Development, which Fox had cancelled eight years earlier.

CBS is in its fifth season of the updated Hawaii Five-O, whose original CBS version left the air in 1980. Last fall, TNT cancelled Dallas after three seasons — and two decades after the original Dallas ended a 14-season run on CBS.

Let's not forget The Odd Couple, which premiered in February on CBS. Starring Matthew Perry and Thomas Lennon as the mismatched flatmates, it is based on the 1968 film, which was based on the 1965 Broadway comedy, which inspired the long-running 1970 ABC sitcom (starring Jack Klugman and Tony Randall) as well as the 1982 ABC flop featuring an African-American odd couple (played by Demond Wilson and Ron Glass).

And now let's look ahead:

• A reboot of the 1990-91 ABC thriller Twin Peaks, set for 2016, was announced last fall by Showtime with co-creators David Lynch and Mark Frost back on board for a new round of eeriness. Earlier this month, Lynch said he was exiting the project, but Showtime expressed hopes of salvaging the series with both principals participating.

• NBC is game for a new round of the 1989-97 sitcom Coach. The network ordered 13 episodes of what it is pointedly calling a "sequel," not a revival or, um, ripoff of the ABC original, with Craig T. Nelson again starring as Hayden Fox, former head coach of a college football team and now assistant coach to his grown son, who's the new head coach at an Ivy League school.

• MTV2 announced last week that it has ordered a pilot for the resurrection of Celebrity Death Match, the ultimate-fighting spoof that pits animated effigies of stars against each other. The series originally aired on MTV from 1998 to 2002, then returned to MTV2 in 2005 for two more seasons, with such puppet faceoffs as Ice Cube vs. Ice-T and Hillary Rodham Clinton vs. Monica Lewinsky.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sweet! Making cocktail bitters is easy

SPIRITS

DIY infusions let you choose the flavours

Feeling bitter? Get in line. These days anyone who takes their drinking seriously is getting intimate with bitters.

Fuelled largely by the hard liquor and artisanal cocktail booms, bitters — those astringent, potent flavour enhancers added by the drop to cocktails — have become a big business.

Ten years ago you'd have been challenged to find much beyond those ubiquitous Angostura and Peychaud's bitters. Today, bitters are made with everything from celery and rhubarb to Mexican chocolate and Colonial-era spice blends.

Yet even with this delicious abundance, it's OK to want more. The good news is that custom bitters are easy to crank out in your own kitchen.

But first, a bitter primer. Bitters often are described as the salt of the cocktail world. A drop added to a drink — and sometimes food — doesn't just add flavour, it heightens, highlights and ties together all the other ingredients, as well. Most bitters are made by distilling herbs, seeds, roots and other ingredients. The result is a thin liquid with — Surprise! — a bitter or bittersweet taste and a robust aroma.

Custom bitters are easy to crank out in your own kitchen. Here are two techniques, one that works in about 30 minutes, another that takes a few days. It really just depends on how much time you've got.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Ingredients

As the name suggests, at least one of your ingredients should have a bitter (or astringent) flavour. Citrus peel is ideal for this. I generally use just the thin zest layer of the peel from oranges or limes, though I once used whole kumquats. You also could use rhubarb, cranberries, fresh basil or mint. Whole produce, such as kumquats, should be scored with a knife.

Next, pick something sweet. Usually, some sort of fruit is helpful here, such as lemon or lime slices, cherries, apples, berries or mango. Anything large should be chopped.

Now, grab something spicy. Cinnamon, star anise, black peppercorns, cumin and nutmeg are all delicious. If you like a little heat, consider adding a hot pepper.

The important thing is to select flavours and ingredients that you like and that you think will work together. It also helps if you have a cocktail or spirit in mind when making your bitters. I'm a fan of the classic old fashioned made with bourbon. I don't add much sugar to my drink, but I do like sweetly fruity bitters, so I often go with flavours such as cranberry-orange-cinnamon. Sometimes I add a vanilla bean.

Finally, you need vodka. You will be using all of these ingredients to infuse the vodka, which ultimately will become the bitters. Don't go top shelf for the vodka; just grab a jug of the cheap stuff.

2 Slow method

Place your infusion ingredients — the bitter, sweet and spicy ingredients you've chosen — in a glass quart jar with a tight-fitting lid. How much? Depends. For citrus, use the full zest of 3 to 4 pieces of fruit. For cranberries, rhubarb or herbs, use about 2 cups. The good news is that it's really hard to use too much, so when in doubt, add more. Remember, the finished product will only be used a few drops at a time.

Once your ingredients are in the jar, lightly mash them with a wooden spoon, then add enough vodka to fill it. Screw on the lid, shake, then walk away. Whenever you think of it during the next three or four days, give it a shake. After the infusion has sat for that time, strain it, squeezing the solids to get as much liquid as possible. Discard the solids.

Place the infused vodka in a small saucepan and simmer until reduced by half. Let it cool, then bottle it and refrigerate. Done. Use a few drops in your next cocktail. The bitters will keep in the refrigerator for a month.

3 Fast method

Ready for fun with science? This is where we get to use the boiling point of alcohol — a low 176 F — to our advantage.

First, heat a large pot of water to 176 F. Use a candy thermometer hooked to the side of the pot to monitor this. Now dump all of the ingredients outlined in the slow method above into a heat-safe plastic bag (the bags used by vacuum sealers are a good choice), pressing out as much air as possible. Submerge the bag in the warm water. In a few minutes (depending on the temperature of your ingredients), you'll see the vodka in the bag bubbling gently. Let it do that for about 10 minutes. Remove the bag from the water and let it cool for another 15 or so minutes. Strain and reduce as described in the slow method. Done. Almost instant cocktail bitters. The bitters will keep in the refrigerator for a month.

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WHISKY

A hint of maple

LIQUID ASSETS

Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy

Pouring maple syrup on your flapjacks is one thing. Drinking the stuff is a whole different story.

While whisky purists may turn up their noses, the popularity of infused brown spirits is creating more buzz than how old Harrison Ford looks in the latest Star Wars trailer.

Granted, Scotch whisky enthusiasts have less to worry about. The pedigree and personality of their tipple of choice doesn't typically lend itself to manipulation.

All other whiskies, especially the lighter Canadian and more rambunctious American versions, are fair game for flavouring.

Though many can come across as overbearing, Knob Creek's Smoked Maple Bourbon ($43.49 – $45.99) seems to have found that perfect balance between past and present.

She smells like maple, but the upfront smoke massages it just enough so that in the mouth she stays true to her origins.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Dos Caminos Grilled Mexican Street Corn. CONTRIBUTED

Grill and roast veggies for true Mexican style

AUTHENTIC CUISINE

A healthy and delicious take on fave dishes

Eva Kis
Metro | New York

The Mexican food that Dos Caminos chef Ivy Stark saw on a recent trip south of the U.S. border didn't feature many of the ingredients we expect.

"I want to dispel the myth that melted cheese and sour cream are authentic Mexican food," she says.

Cheese, in fact, is a rarity. Another missing "staple" on every menu here: quesadillas as we know them.

What you do get is cuisine rich with vegetables, which are cheaper than meat. Sauces are made with roasted veggies, spices and sometimes nuts.

After her trip, Stark created a whole new, healthier menu for her restaurants, and shared with us the tips on how you can capture authentic flavors in dishes.

Stark revamped her guacamole for the new menu, giving it a smoky depth of flavour with roasted jalapeno peppers. "Roasting is a really good technique because it concentrates the flavour," she says.

Replacing flour tortillas with corn saves calories, makes the dish gluten-free and cuts out any potential hydrogenated oil. Cook it on a griddle to crisp it up instead of frying it.

Charring can cause carcinogens to form on meat and fish, but you can still grill vegetables like corn and asparagus. "Grilling is also a really good technique, especially if you're looking to not use any fat," she says. "It's really delicious for corn, squash — everything tastes good on the grill because you get that smokiness against the sweetness of the vegetables. And it's easy!"

WORD OF MOUTH

Pomegranates and dates a power couple

NUTRI-BITES

Theresa Albert
myfriendinfood.com

Remember when food combining was a big thing? The mostly debunked theory was that you can only digest one macronutrient at a time.

New evidence shows that combining specific foods enhances their powers. In one study, the combination of pomegranate and dates had a potent cholesterol lowering effect. Go figure, nature may know something.

Here are some tips on working these artery cleaners into your day:

- To peel a pomegranate, cut in half and immerse into a bowl of cool water. The fibres will fall away and the seeds will float.
- Dates are a fresh fruit that dry on the tree so they should be stored in the fridge.
- Top a Greek salad with a handful of both.
- Make a martini with pomegranate juice rimmed with date sugar.
- In a blender, combine 1 cup of pitted dates, ½ cup of pomegranate juice and a tsp of cinnamon. Store in the freezer and enjoy 1 tsp before or during vigorous exercise to refuel
- Think savoury dishes. Pomegranate is a good alternative liquid when red wine is called for in a recipe.
- Dates are great in pilafs and rice dishes paired with nuts.

What grows together, goes together is a culinary concept that will help you combine foods for flavour and, over time, science may just confirm the adage. THERESA IS AN ON-CAMERA FOOD AND HEALTH EXPERT, NUTRITIONIST AND WRITER WHO WANTS YOU TO BE IN THE KNOW.

Dates pack a healthy punch when paired with pomegranate, shown at right. ISTOCK

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EARTH DAY

The future is now for our planet

Deb Doncaster

Earth Day is celebrating its 25th anniversary — and while it's a time to celebrate milestones, it's also a time to look ahead at what still needs to be done.

This is a key year for environmental action, says Deb Doncaster, president of Earth Day Canada. That's why the charity is launching the Earth Day Every Day campaign with a "clean commute" focus.

A quarter of a century ago, there weren't many national environmental organizations. Earth Day, which originated in the U.S., quickly made its way into Canada and around the world — today it's active in 170 countries. Six million people participate in Earth Day across Canada every April 22, joining a billion people across the planet.

"For the last decade or so, we left it up to individual local organizations to do whatever they wanted to do on Earth Day," Doncaster says. "I think we've all agreed that it would be wise to focus our efforts around particular initiatives, to use the day to galvanize efforts and show the impact that collective action can actually have."

This year, Canada has reached the halfway mark in meeting the goals set out by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. And the next decade is critical, Doncaster says.

SHUTTERSTOCK

"It's the decade where we're either on course to a more moderate climate impact scenario or we're on course for something more extreme."

A sign that we are moving in the right direction is that last year's global CO2 emissions didn't surpass the previous year's levels, according to the International Energy Agency.

"What's even more interesting is that the global economy grew by three per cent," Doncaster says. "That's a little glimmer of hope — the huge investments that are being made in renewable energy and conservation are starting to have an impact. Now we have to save the forests, turn to electric vehicles and conserve energy. All of these things are so doable if we have the collective will."

MAKE EARTH DAY EVERY DAY TO REDUCE YOUR FOOTPRINT

Earth Day is celebrated each year on April 22, but organizers want it to be Earth Day all year round. That's one reason they have launched the Earth Day Every Day campaign.

The new five-year campaign goes live this Earth Day in celebration of the charity's 25th anniversary. Earth Day Every Day encourages participants to commit "green acts" and share them online through social media for prizes.

The goal is to help Canadians reduce their carbon footprint by 20 per cent for 2020. Today, each Canadian has a carbon footprint of about five tonnes per year.

Earth Day Every Day is designed to help the average Canadian clean their commute, reduce their personal carbon emissions and share their acts of greenness.

Participants can create a profile, choose from a range of clean commutes to reduce their carbon footprint, share their activities on social media and track their greenhouse-gas reductions on a personal dashboard — they will be recognized for hitting certain milestones. They can also see how their efforts stack up against other participants through a national carbon dashboard

Earth Day Every Day takes place from April 22 to May 22. For more information and to and get involved, visit EDED.ca.

What kind of transportation did you choose today?

Earth Day Every Day

Learn 25 ways to clean your commute at EarthDay2015.ca

You can **ACT, POST, SHARE, WIN & Sign the Earth Flag**

#EarthDayEveryDay

Income Property star Scott McGillivray will share tips on how to clean your commute as part of Earth Day Canada's Earth Day Every Day campaign. CONTRIBUTED

SHUTTERSTOCK

SHUTTERSTOCK

Simple, sensible commuting tips

This Earth Day, Income Property star Scott McGillivray will share tips on how to clean your commute as part of Earth Day Canada's Earth Day Every Day campaign.

"I've always been concerned about the environment and have taken that approach in my industry, from real estate to renovations," says McGillivray, who recently signed on as one of the charity's VGP (Very Green People).

"Fifty per cent of all trips that people take in their cars are less than five kilometres," he says. "People are getting in their car to drive around the corner."

McGillivray has made a green-living pledge that includes clean commuting around Toronto on Earth Day by bicycle, public transit or electric vehicle.

But being greener doesn't mean giving up your car or making radical lifestyle changes, he says. Better driving practices and car tuning can help boost fuel efficiency, saving money and reducing carbon emissions.

While car pooling or driving an electric car are great ways to go green, drivers can also reduce their environmental impact by properly inflating their tires to get the best mileage, matching octane fuel to their vehicle, and reducing idling time.

McGillivray says he also tries to anticipate traffic flow, which might mean leaving for work a bit earlier so he doesn't spend as much time idling in traffic. And his crew will sometimes take public transit or car pool.

"There are simple things you can do that are just sensible," he says. "Not everybody needs to get rid of their car. I'm realistic."

But if everybody can make a change that results in a 20 per cent reduction in carbon emissions, he says, that's a big deal.

Earth Day Canada offers up 25 different green commuting acts, from going electric to using people power, taking public transit, greening your drive and telecommuting.

Learn more at earthday.ca.

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CONVERSATIONS IN CLASSROOMS

ECOKIDS TOOLKIT ENGAGES CHILDREN

Earth Day Canada is asking kids to get green.

"Kids are the change-makers," says Lindsay Bunce, director of education programs with Earth Day Canada. "They have this tremendous energy and creativity. I'm always humbled by the innovation that comes out of student-based projects."

Developed by Earth Day Canada, the EcoKids School Toolkit is designed to help teachers and students (kindergarten to Grade 8) take action and engage their school community on environmental issues.

"Earth Day is a special day in schools," Bunce says. "It's an opportunity to invite students to think about their impact on the environment. It's also a celebration of a lot of the good work that's done throughout the school year."

This year, kids are being asked to "green" their commute to school by setting up "Walking Wednesdays" or joining a "bicycle train" or "walking bus" — meeting at a starting point and walking or cycling to school as a group, picking up students along the way.

"We're focused on bringing those conversations into the classroom," Bunce says. "The other big initiative is signing the Earth Flag. We are asking schools to find a piece of fabric — it could be an old bed sheet — and sign their names."

Earth Day Canada also holds fun contests throughout the year to get kids engaged. The Staples Superpower Your School contest, for example, challenged "ecovators" to share their eco-initiatives earlier this year for a chance to win $25,000 worth of new technology for their school.

And the EcoKids Battery Hero Art Contest, in partnership with Call2Recycle, boosts awareness around the proper way to recycle batteries. Students create a battery "superhero" who prevents batteries from filling up landfills. This year's winner was a Grade 6 student, whose battery hero will be revealed in May and will star in a new episode of Paddy the Beaver on the Kidoons Network.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Recognizing Canada's unsung heroes

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Sustainability starts with people, yet often those people aren't recognized for their efforts.

To address this, Earth Day Canada has established the Hometown Heroes award program, recognizing and celebrating environmental leaders, groups and small businesses across the country since 2004.

"We recognize the unsung heroes at the local level who are making a huge impact in communities across the country," says Jennifer Mack, awards and recognition programs manager with Earth Day Canada. "They're the ones who are engaging students or community members. They often aren't recognized on a national level."

The annual program, sponsored by Mill Street Brewery and the RBC Foundation, awards individuals, groups and small businesses with a cash prize toward their sustainability efforts.

This year, the program is adding a youth category. The winner will receive a $5,000 cash prize that can be donated to a local environmental group or cause or go toward a post-secondary scholarship.

"We're not only recognizing people for the work they do, but we're also giving them money that goes back into the community," Mack says.

A panel of community, business and environmental leaders will select this year's Hometown Heroes. Nominations are open until June 30, and the winners will be announced in the fall.

To date, Earth Day Canada has recognized 115 Hometown Heroes across Canada.

CONNECTING WITH BUSINESSES

Earth Day Canada doesn't just work with schools and communities, it also recognizes the importance of getting businesses — from mom-and-pop shops to large corporations — involved in sustainability efforts.

The charity creates customized programs for businesses, designed to help employees meet sustainability and conservation goals.

CN, for example, was focused on environmental stewardship, but it was looking to engage employees in those efforts, says Jo Anne Tacorda, employee engagement manager with Earth Day Canada. In 2011, Earth Day Canada partnered with CN to launch EcoConnexions, an initiative to conserve energy and reduce waste. Since then, they have trained more than 575 "eco champions," who inspire and lead the company's 24,000 employees to take action.

"Those eco champions are critical to the project," Tacorda says.

So far, more than 65 of CN's medium and large yards have officially launched the program. Employees have been involved in 209,000 "green acts," preventing 6,350 tonnes of greenhouse gas and diverting 90 per cent of operational waste from landfills.

EcoConnexions is a model that other businesses can follow, Tacorda says. If done correctly, employee engagement programs help align business goals with environmental ones.

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metro DRIVE
Your essential daily news

E-cars have become part of driver's ed in Stuttgart, Germany

2015 Nissan Micra suits city best

THE CHECKLIST | 2015 NISSAN MICRA

THE BASICS

Type. Four-door, five-passenger subcompact hatchback
Engine (hp/torque). 1.6-litre four-cylinder (109)
Transmissions. Five-speed manual or four-speed automatic
Price. $9,998 (as tested) plus destination

POINTS

- The Micra is sold in several countries, but not the U.S.
- A special "Krom" trim line adds chrome trim and available black wheels.
- Cars at this year's Micra Cup racing series in Quebec have modified suspensions and performance tires, but use stock 1.6-litre engines.

COOL FEATURES

- Keyless entry.
- Tilt steering wheel.
- Bluetooth and USB port.
- Available rearview camera.
- 60/40 split-folding rear seat.
- Standard variable intermittent wipers.
- Speed-sensitive stereo volume control.

MARKET POSITION

- Nissan isn't just trying to get customers out of new-car competitors, but used ones, as well. The Micra is priced similarly to many pre-owned vehicles, but includes a factory warranty and may be easier for some buyers to finance.

THE COMPETITION

Mitsubishi Mirage
Base price: $12,498

Chevrolet Spark
Base price: $12,145

Toyota Yaris
Base price: $16,015

REVIEW

Least costly car in Canada doesn't feel that way

Jil McIntosh
For Metro

While price isn't always everything, it's the way Nissan markets its new Micra: with a starting price tag of $9,998, it's the least expensive car in Canada. While it isn't costly, the Micra doesn't feel cheap, and for many drivers, it could be an excellent city runabout or second car.

That rock-bottom price gets you the base Micra S trim line, with a five-speed manual transmission and no air conditioning.

To get air conditioning, you also have to take a four-speed automatic transmission and cruise control, which brings the price up to $13,298. Even so, it's still less expensive than any of its subcompact-car competitors when they're also equipped with cold air.

At the top end of the scale, the Micra goes as high as $16,748 for the SR trim with an optional automatic transmission.

Now, you're not getting all the luxury goodies for $10,000, and at that level, you'll have to crank up the windows by hand, adjust the manual mirrors using a little joystick on each window frame, and unlock the doors with the key.

You do get a tilt steering column, CD stereo with auxiliary input jack, carpeted floor mats, a 12-volt power outlet, digital clock, and a split-folding rear seat.

Although the Micra's 1.6-litre four-cylinder engine makes just 109 horsepower, this is a surprisingly fun little car to pilot. It feels quick and peppy, the shifter is smooth, it responds immediately to steering input, and it drives better than many cars that cost considerably more.

> **This is a surprisingly fun little car to pilot**
> Jil McIntosh

Now, for all that, it isn't that great a car to drive on the highway. It's noisy and the seats don't stay comfortable for very long, and with my seating position, I found that my leg quickly got cramped on the throttle, since I didn't have the luxury of cruise control.

I'm more than willing to forgive it, however, since the Micra isn't meant to be a highway hauler.

Instead, it's an inexpensive machine that's sized and built for the city, and that feels and works better than its price.

If you don't need frills to be happy, take this one for a drive.

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Toyota's hydrogen car already a hit

PRODUCTION

1,500 orders in first month

Just months after the Mirai hydrogen car's debut, Toyota says it will more than triple production of the ultra high-tech sedan. However, production will increase to only about 3,000 units in 2017 from current levels of about 700 a year. Toyota revealed the expansion in light of the 1,500 orders received in the first month of Mirai sales in Japan, and launches planned this year in the United States and Europe.

TEXT AND IMAGES BY WHEELBASE MEDIA

ENGINES

Ford hits 5m Eco builds

Ford recently built its five millionth EcoBoost gasoline engine since the line launched in 2009. The engines, Ford said, were in one of every four of its vehicles sold in Europe last year, with the most popular unit being the 1.0-litre three-cylinder version. The five millionth vehicle was a 1.0-litre Ford Focus that rolled off the assembly line at the Michigan Assembly Plant in Wayne, Mich.

THE GREEN ANGLE

Metro's weekly picks for the latest in environmental news

DESIGN

New NSX shows touches of tech

Acura says it will begin taking orders this summer for its new-generation NSX hybrid supercar, with deliveries expected to begin later in the year.

Built exclusively in the United States at a dedicated facility in Marysville, Ohio, the sleekly styled NSX will sport a twin turbocharged V6 engine with a nine-speed paddle-shift transmission and three electric motors, all within a rigid, lightweight multi-material body.

The exterior body design has been fashioned for "total airflow management" for both stability-enhancing downforce and vehicle systems cooling. Anchored by a carbon-fibre floor, the body uses a space frame design, an internal frame constructed of aluminum, ultra-high strength steel and other advanced materials that give it both high strength and weight savings.

SALES

California may cut e-cars tax

California's Legislature is considering a bill that would cut the sales tax on environmentally benign vehicles sold in the state to 3.06 per cent from the current level of 7.5 per cent, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Reducing the sales tax on hybrid vehicles sounds like incentive for buyers to be green, but what about on a million-dollar car like a Ferrari La Ferrari?

It might technically be a hybrid, but should money be given to help buy a near-1,000-horsepower sports car?

IMPROVEMENT

New vehicles more efficient than ever: EPA

Automakers exceeded U.S. government targets for improving fuel economy and reducing tailpipe emissions by "a wide margin" for the second consecutive year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPSA) said.

Vehicles sold in the U.S. are the most fuel efficient they've ever been, averaging 24.1 miles (38.8 kilometres) per U.S. gallon in 2013, a 0.5-mpg increase from the previous model year, the government agency said.

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INCLUDES FREIGHT, PDI, LEVIES, $4,200 CASH CREDIT◆◆ & $750 LOYALTY CASH.,[1]

STEP UP TO THE COMFORT, CONVENIENCE AND CAPABILITY OF THE KODIAK EDITION

$10,000 IN TOTAL VALUE*

INCLUDES: **$4,500** DELIVERY CREDIT, **$2,345** CASH CREDIT, **$2,155** KODIAK PACKAGE DISCOUNT, **$1,000** LOYALTY CASH

KODIAK PACKAGE INCLUDES:

PLUS UP TO $1,500 LOYALTY CASH ON SELECT MODELS[1/2]

START CONNECTED. STAY CONNECTED.

Exclusive OnStar 4G LTE Wi-Fi guarantees a fast internet connection within a 15-m radius of your vehicle. Reliable and easy to use, it transforms your GMC into a luxurious, cutting-edge mobile office.

WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

TO GUARANTEE OUR QUALITY, WE BACK IT **160,000-KM/5-YEAR** POWERTRAIN WARRANTY

Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details.▲

VEHICLE PRICING IS NOW EASIER TO UNDERSTAND BECAUSE ALL OUR PRICES INCLUDE FREIGHT, PDI AND MANDATORY GOVERNMENT LEVIES. Prices do not include applicable taxes and PPSA. Consumers may be required to pay up to $799 for Dealer fees.***

Visit us at: **GMC.GM.CA**

For the latest information, visit us at gmc.gm.ca, drop by your local Buick GMC Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. ▼Based on a 24/24/48 month lease for 2015 GMC (Sierra 1500 Double Cab 4X4 1SA+G80+H2R+B30/Sierra 1500 Crew Cab 4X4 1SA+G80+B30/Acadia SLE AWD 3SA). Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly/Bi-Weekly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of $1,850/$1,850/$1,675 and/or $0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is $9,369/$9,903/$20,331. Option to purchase at lease end is $22,211/$24,427/$20,137. Excess wear and tear and km charges not included. Other lease options available. †Offer applies to the purchase of 2015 GMC Terrain SLE 3SA. ◆$4,500/$3,500 is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) for 2015 GMC Sierra 1500 Double Cab/2015 GMC Sierra 1500 Crew Cab and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ◆◆$4,200 is a manufacturer to dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive) for 2015 GMC Terrain SLE-1 and is reflected in offers in this advertisement. Such credit is available only for cash purchase and by selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing such credit which will result in higher effective interest rates. Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ▼/◆/◆◆/***Freight & PDI, ($1,695/$1,695/$1,650/$1,650), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2015 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Buick GMC Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ±2015 Sierra 1500 SLE Double Cab 4WD with GAT, MSRP with freight PDI & levies $45,419. 2015 Acadia AWD SLT-1, MSRP with freight PDI & levies $49,454. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ▲Warranty based on 6-years or 110,000 km, whichever comes first. Fully transferable. See dealer for conditions and limited warranty details. Excludes Medium Duty Trucks. **1**Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any model year 1999 or newer car that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickups models delivered in Canada from April 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $500 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $750 credit available on other Chevrolet, Buick GMC vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, Silverado Light Duty and Heavy Duty, GMC: Canyon 2SA, Sierra Light Duty and Heavy Duty); $1,000 credit available on Cadillac vehicles (except 2015 Cadillac Escalade) and $1,000 on all Chevrolet Silverado's and GMC Sierra's. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. **2**Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any Pontiac/Saturn/SAAB/Hummer/Oldsmobile model year 1999 or newer car or Chevrolet Cobalt or HHR that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickups models delivered in Canada from April 1, 2015 – April 30, 2015. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive): $1,000 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $1,500 credit available on other eligible Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, GMC Canyon 2SA and 2015 Cadillac Escalade). Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. *$10,000 is a combined total credit consisting of a $4,500 manufacturer-to-dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive), $2,345 Cash Credit (tax exclusive), $1,000 Loyalty Cash (tax inclusive) and a $2,155 manufacturer-to-dealer Kodiak Package Discount Credit (tax exclusive) for 2015 Sierra SLE Kodiak Edition, which is available for cash purchases only and cannot be combined with special lease and finance rates. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this $2,155 credit, which will result in higher effective interest rates. Discounts vary by model. +Visit onstar.ca for coverage maps, details and system limitations. Services and connectivity may vary by model and conditions. OnStar with 4G LTE connectivity is available on select vehicle models and in select markets. Customers will be able to access OnStar services only if they accept the OnStar User Terms and Privacy Statement. OnStar acts as a link to existing emergency service providers. After the trial period (if applicable), an active OnStar service plan is required.

Jaguar XK, XKR give sleek ride

USED VEHICLE

Battery in 2007 to 2014 models may need extra care

Launched for model year 2007, the Jaguar XK is a classy coupe or convertible four-seater with standard V8 power, upscale design and feature content, and a lavish and luxurious cabin finished with top-line leather, wood and metallic trim.

Start your test drive looking for signs of warning lights and messages in the XK's instrument cluster, which could be the result of a poorly charged battery. Low battery voltage can cause a world of issues in a car like the XK that's not typically driven daily, so be sure to invest in a battery 'trickle charger' to keep the battery topped up. A Jaguar mechanic should investigate any warning lights or messages ahead of your purchase.

Be on the lookout for soggy carpeting, excessive condensation on interior windows, and other signs of a water leak, which could be caused by plugged or damaged drain tubes. In many cases, a plugged drain tube can be cleared with a few blasts of compressed air. Be sure that's the case.

On a convertible, run the power top through its positions several times, and check all rubber seals for cracking, damage or missing pieces.

Confirm proper operation of the navigation system, noting a calibration procedure may be necessary if the system doesn't seem to be able to locate the car on the map.

Confirm proper operation of the navigation system, noting that a calibration procedure may need to be carried out if the system doesn't seem to be able to locate the car on the map.

Finally, as the XK and XKR are performance cars designed for hard driving, have a mechanic check the condition and level of all fluids, the tires, and the brakes. JUSTIN PRITCHARD

METRO TESTED

Features

A driver computer, Bluetooth, automatic lights and climate control, push-button engine start and motorized memory seats. The XK is an ideal choice for someone seeking a good-looking, high-performance car.

What owners like

The XK's performance, silky smooth V8 power, gorgeous exhaust note, relative ease of entry and exit, and relatively easy to drive character. The XK and XKR are docile to drive gently, too.

What owners dislike

Common complaints include tiny rear seats, limited cargo space, a sometimes hard-to-read central navigation screen, and a rough ride in models with larger wheels.

The verdict

If your budget allows it, your safest bet in a used XK or XKR is a dealer-serviced model sold through a certified pre-owned program. An XK will be the most affordable to fuel, maintain and insure.

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Research and Compare to find the vehicle that's right for your Lifestyle

SUPERCARS

McLaren expands supercar collection

British supercar manufacturer McLaren has unveiled its newest offering at the Shanghai Auto Show, the 540C, which alongside the 570S rounds out its "Sports Series."

It's also the company's most affordable supercar to date, with McLaren confirming a starting price of $165,000.

McLaren's fleet is now composed of three model series: Sports, Super and Ultimate.

In the Sports Series category, the 540C joins the 570C, unveiled a few days earlier in New York. Its twin-turbocharged 3.8-litre V8 produces 562 horsepower, capable of hitting 100 km/h in 3.2 seconds and topping out at 328 km/h.

The entry-level 540C's twin-turbocharged V8 produces 533 horsepower and is capable of reaching 320 km/h, the first 62 of which it'll attain in just 3.5 seconds. It is already available for purchase, though delivery of the vehicles won't begin until early 2016. Both of these cars share the same carbon-fibre chassis.

The Super Series includes a model first presented at the Geneva International Motor Show in 2015, the 675LT, capable of reaching 100 km/h in a claimed 2.9 seconds thanks to its 666 horsepower twin-turbocharged V8. The company announced it will limit production to 500 units, with a starting price of $349,500.

The 650S, in coupé and spider form, both of which were presented in Geneva in 2014, complete the Super Series. While the 650S' design is clearly inspired by the P1, its performance more closely resembles that of the 12C, its 3.8-litre V8 producing 641 horsepower and racing to 100 km/h in 3 seconds.

Finally, the Ultimate Series includes the spectacular P1 and its track-only version, the P1 GTR. The McLaren P1, first presented at the Paris Auto Show in 2012 before making its debut in its definitive hybrid version the following year in Geneva, is the flagship of the McLaren catalogue. Its technology amazes, pairing a 3.8-litre 727 horsepower V8 with a 177 horsepower electric motor capable of reaching a top speed of 350 km/h, and featuring hydro-pneumatic suspension, electro-hydraulically assisted steering, and even a rear wing that extends almost 12 inches. All 375 of the million-dollar plus supercar have already been sold.

The Shanghai Auto Show is open to the public April 22-29, go to autoshanghai.org for details. AFP

The McLaren 540C Coupé. AFP

Drive it Love it

GET UP TO $10,500 IN TOTAL DISCOUNTS◊

AVAILABLE 11 DAYS ONLY $500 BONUS CASH• ON SELECT MODELS APRIL 18-30

0% FINANCING† NOW AVAILABLE ON SELECT 2015 MODELS

+

2015 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

$26,495

PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $8,500 CONSUMER CASH;* $1,500 LOYALTY BONUS CASH;** $500 BONUS CASH;• FREIGHT, A/C CHARGE, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.*

OR CHOOSE

$146 BI-WEEKLY FINANCING† @ 3.49% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN

OR

STEP UP TO THE 2015 RAM 1500 CREW CAB SXT 4X4 FOR ONLY $19 MORE BI-WEEKLY

OR CHOOSE

0% FINANCING† FOR 36 MONTHS ON QUAD AND CREW CAB MODELS

Starting From Price for 2015 Ram 1500 SLT Quad Cab shown: $33,290.§

Starting From Price for 2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew Plus shown: $34,490.§

2015 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

CANADA'S BEST-SELLING MINIVAN FOR MORE THAN 31 YEARS

$19,995

PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $8,100 CONSUMER CASH;* FREIGHT, A/C CHARGE, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.†

OR CHOOSE

$110 BI-WEEKLY FINANCING† @ 3.49% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN

THE ALL-NEW 2015 CHRYSLER 200 LX

MOST AFFORDABLE MID-SIZE CAR IN CANADA^

$19,995

PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $3,500 CONSUMER CASH;* FREIGHT, A/C CHARGE, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.†

OR CHOOSE

$110 BI-WEEKLY FINANCING† @ 3.49% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN

OR

STEP UP TO THE 200 LIMITED FOR ONLY $12 MORE BI-WEEKLY

2015 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK+ (When equipped with optional Safety Tec group.)

Starting From Price for 2015 Chrysler 200 C shown: $29,790.§

Starting From Price for 2015 Dodge Journey Crossroad shown: $31,785.§

2015 DODGE JOURNEY CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

CANADA'S FAVOURITE CROSSOVER^

$19,995

PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $2,000 CONSUMER CASH;* FREIGHT, A/C CHARGE, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.†

AND GET 0% FINANCING† FOR 36 MONTHS

OR CHOOSE

$110 BI-WEEKLY FINANCING† @ 3.49% FOR 96 MONTHS WITH $0 DOWN

chryslercanada.ca/offers

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

CHRYSLER DODGE

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Jeep RAM

Wise customers read the fine print: ◊, †, •, *, **, ±, ≈, § The Drive It Love It Sales Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected in-stock new and unused models purchased/leased from participating retailers between April 18 and 30, 2015. Offers subject to change and may be extended or changed without notice. All pricing includes freight ($1,695), air-conditioning charge (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Financing and lease offers available to qualified customers on approved credit. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◊$10,500 in Total Discounts is available on new 2015 Ram 1500 models (excluding Reg Cab) and consists of $8,500 in Consumer Cash Discounts, $1,500 in Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest Bonus Cash and $500 Bonus Cash. See your retailer for complete details. †0% purchase financing for up to 60 months available on select new 2015 models to qualified customers on approved credit through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Examples: 2015 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (25A+AGR)/2015 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $26,495/$19,995 with a $0 down payment, financed at 0% for 36 months equals 78 bi-weekly payments of $340/$256 with a cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $26,495/$19,995. •$500 Bonus Cash is available on select new 2014/2015 Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep or Ram models at participating retailers from April 18 to 30, 2015. Bonus Cash will be deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price before taxes. Excludes 2014 Chrysler 200 LX, 2015 Chrysler 200, 2014 Dodge Avenger CVP, 2015 Jeep Renegade (all models), 2014/2015 Dodge Grand Caravan CVP, 2014/2015 Dodge Journey CVP and SE Plus, 2014/2015 Dodge Dart (all models), 2015 Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat, 2015 Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat, 2014/2015 Jeep Wrangler Sport, 2014/2015 Jeep Patriot (all models), 2014/2015 Jeep Compass Sport (select models), 2014/2015 Jeep Cherokee (all models), 2014/2015 Ram Cargo Van, 2014/2015 Ram 1500 Regular Cab, ProMaster City and all 2014/2015 FIAT models. Offer available at participating Atlantic and Ontario retailers only. See retailer for complete details and exclusions. *Consumer Cash Discounts are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. **$1,500 Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest/Skilled Trades Bonus Cash is available on the retail purchase/lease of 2014/2015 Ram 1500 (excludes Regular Cab), 2014 Ram 2500/3500, or 2014 Ram Cargo Van and is deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. Eligible customers include: 1. Current owners/lessees of a Dodge or Ram Pickup Truck or Large Van or any other manufacturer's Pickup Truck or Large Van. The vehicle must have been owned/leased by the eligible customer and registered in their name on or before April 1, 2015. Proof of ownership/lease agreement will be required. 2. Customers who are skilled tradesmen or are acquiring a skilled trade. This includes Licensed Tradesmen, Certified Journeymen or customers who have completed an Apprenticeship Certification. A copy of the Trade Licence/Certification required. 3. Customers who are Baeumler Approved service providers. Proof of membership is required. Limit one $1,500 bonus cash offer per eligible truck transaction. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. ‡3.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on new select models through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Examples: 2015 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (25A+AGR)/2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package/2015 Chrysler 200 LX/2015 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $26,495/$19,995/$19,995/$19,995, with a $0 down payment, financed at 3.49% for 96 months equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $146/$110/$110/$110 with a cost of borrowing of $3,909/$2,950/$2,950/$2,950 and a total obligation of $30,403.85/$22,944.90/$22,944.90/$22,944.90. ≈Non-prime financing available on approved credit. 4.99% financing available on 2015 Ram 1500 Quad 4x4 SXT/2015 Chrysler 200 LX. 6.99% financing available on select 2015 models. Financing examples: 2015 Chrysler 200 LX/2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $19,995/$19,995 financed at 4.99%/6.99% over 84 months, equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $130/$139 for a total finance obligation of $23,731.14/$25,341.15. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. §Starting From Prices for vehicles shown include Consumer Cash Discounts and do not include upgrades (e.g., paint). Upgrades available for additional cost. ^Based on IHS Automotive: Polk Canadian Vehicles in Operation data available as of July, 2014 for Crossover Segments as defined by FCA Canada Inc. ±Based on 2014 *Ward's* Lower Middle Sedan segmentation. Excludes other vehicles designed and manufactured by FCA US LLC. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of FCA US LLC used under license by FCA Canada Inc. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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DODGE CARAVAN KIDS PROUD SPONSOR OF AMATEUR HOCKEY ACROSS CANADA

AUTO NEWS OPEL UNVEILS ADAM ROCKS S

The Opel Adam Rocks S. GM COMPANY

A sportier version of brand's crossover

At AutoRAI in Amsterdam, German brand Opel has unveiled the latest addition to its Adam range, a mini-crossover with 150 horsepower. Opel has yet to announce pricing and availability details.

The new Adam Rocks S is powered by the same 1.4-litre, 150-horsepower turbocharged engine as the Adam S, launched in March, so its performance stats are similar (210 km/h top speed and 0 to 100 km/h acceleration in 8.5 seconds).

In terms of fuel efficiency, Opel says the new model consumes 5.9 litres per 100 kilometres, which is equivalent to CO2 emissions of 139 g/km.

A more off-road style and a built-in multimedia system are among the features that distinguish the Adam Rocks S from its older brother. AFP

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Confidence in Motion

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THE FORECAST CALLS FOR SUBARU.

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WELL EQUIPPED FROM $27,976*
$268 LEASE PAYMENT FOR 24 MONTHS*
$2,939 DOWN* | 0.5% LEASE RATE*
2015 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK+‡ MODELS EQUIPPED WITH EYESIGHT®
JAPANESE ENGINEERED VEHICLES STANDARD WITH SYMMETRICAL AWD

2015 IMPREZA
WELL EQUIPPED FROM $21,921*
$198 LEASE PAYMENT FOR 48 MONTHS*
$2,591 DOWN* | 0.9% LEASE RATE*
2015 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK+‡ MODELS EQUIPPED WITH EYESIGHT®
JAPANESE ENGINEERED VEHICLES STANDARD WITH SYMMETRICAL AWD

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‡Ratings are awarded by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) (www.iihs.org). To qualify for 2015 TOP SAFETY PICK+, a vehicle must earn good ratings in the moderate overlap front, side, roof strength and head restraint tests; a good or acceptable rating in the small overlap front test; and an advanced or superior rating for front crash prevention. The 2015 TOP SAFETY PICK+ designation applies only to 2015 Impreza/Forester models equipped with optional EyeSight® technology. MSRP of $19,995/$25,995 on 2015 IMPREZA 2.0i (FF1-20)/2015 FORESTER 2.5i (FJ1 X0). Lease rate of 0.9%/0.5% for 48/24 months. Monthly payment is $198/$268 with $2,591/$2,939 down payment. Option to purchase at end of lease is $10,358/$18,023 with $3,152/3,624 due on signing. Advertised pricing consists of MSRP plus charges for Freight/PDI ($1,595 on 2015 Impreza; $1,650 on 2015 Forester), Air Tax ($100), Tire Stewardship Levy ($27.15), OMVIC Fee ($5), Dealer Admin ($199). Freight/PDI charge includes a full tank of gas. Taxes, license, registration and insurance are extra. $0 security deposit. Models shown: 2015 Forester 2.5i Touring Package (FJI TP) with an MSRP of $29,995. 2015 Impreza 2.0i Touring Package (FF1TP) with an MSRP of $21,695. Dealers may sell or lease for less or may have to order or trade. Vehicles shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Offers expire April 30th, 2015. See your local Subaru dealer for complete program details.

Driving sunglasses should be polarized to eliminate glare and contain an amber or brown tint for creating contrast. ISTOCK

GEAR

Not just any old shades will do for driving

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz

Now I know ZZ Top wants you to go out and get some cheap sunglasses, but don't do it! Especially if you plan on using them for driving.

Driving presents a set of vision challenges not met by all sunglasses, particularly by cheap ones, and particularly by those darker-than-dark shades that the Texas rockers wore on stage, and during MTV videos, throughout the 1980s.

You want a lighter tint to your driving shades, say the experts. Sunglass tint density is rated on a class scale of 0-4, with Class 0 being absolutely clear, and Class 4 being more or less black paint. Each class allows different percentages of light to enter your eyes, and the darker ones just won't let you see well enough behind the wheel.

> **Cheap sunglasses can be low on UV protection**
> Mike Goetz

And remember that UV protection, which you want and need, is not related to tint. Cheap sunglasses can be low on UV protection. Might as well go with 98-100 per cent UV protection, which is available on even moderately priced glasses.

The experts also say that drivers should stay away from certain tint colours, specifically pink, blue and green (unless they are especially designed for driving, and have a "safe for driving" label). These tints don't allow you to distinguish red as easily, and as you know, red is extremely important for driving — almost as important as green.

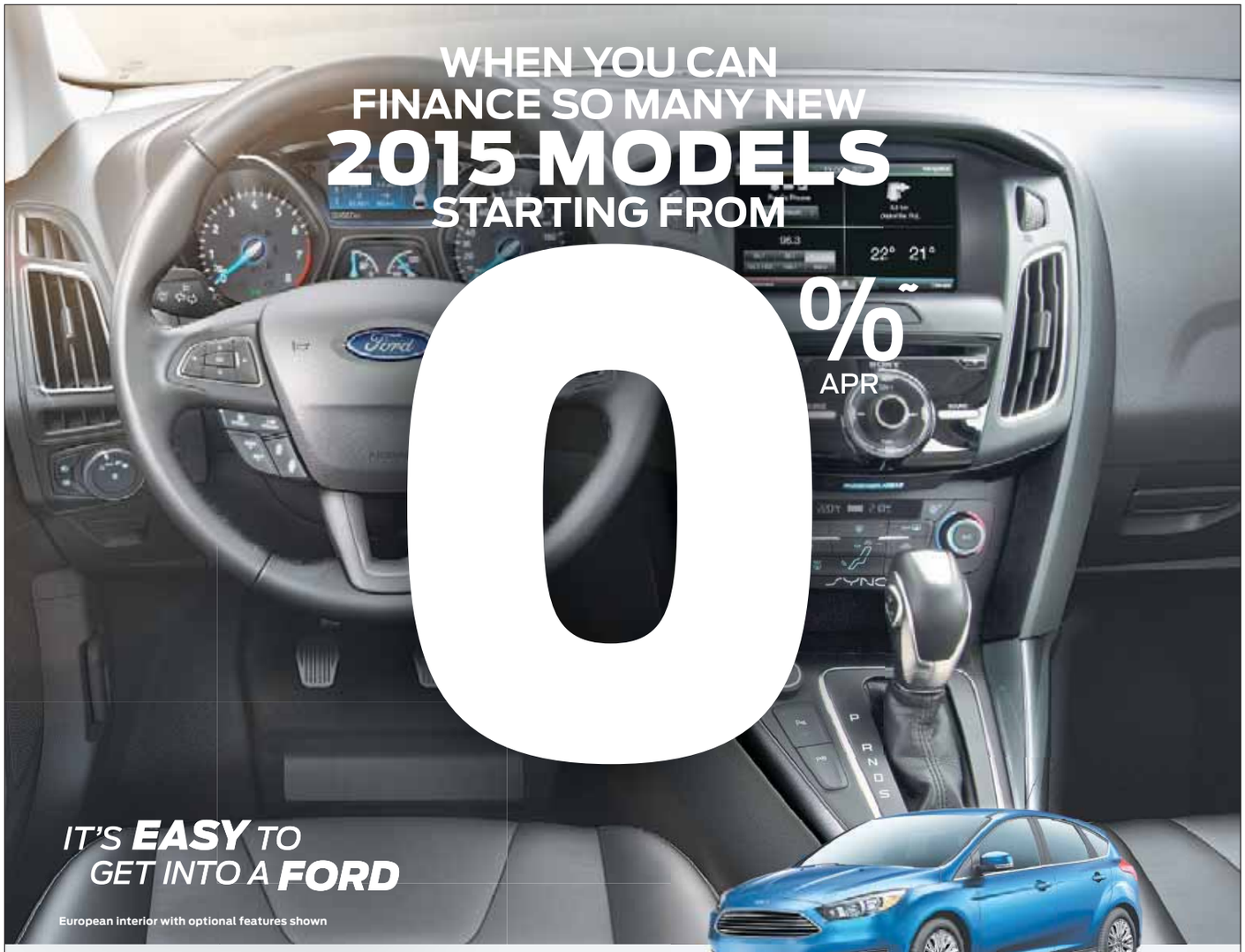
Sunglasses that are precisely designed for driving typically have an amber or brown tint, which are good at creating greater contrast, because they eliminate blue tones. Our eyes aren't crazy about blue tones.

Our eyes don't like light overdose either, which is basically "glare." Sunglasses can come with or without "polarizing," which eliminates glare. Go for polarized glasses, because drivers are subjected to lots of incidences of glare, when the light bounces off the metal of other cars, and off the snow and water on and by the road.

More advice from the experts: Don't get wide or oversized frames as they hinder peripheral vision; wraparound frames prevent glare from entering your eyes from the side; variable tint sunglasses won't work properly in a car, because the windshield already blocks 40 per cent of UV light, and that will delay or restrict the automatic tinting; graduated lens that are lighter on the bottom make it easier for drivers to see their dash instruments and controls.

Of course you can be assured of getting all the attributes we discussed by going with pair of sunglasses designed expressly for driving. Oakley, Maui Jim, and Serengeti are three makes known for their high-end driving sunglasses. I can only speak for Serengeti, which I find to be fabulous.

In fact I'm on my fifth pair. I keep losing them. They're not cheap, so I'm determined not to lose another. I now have this foolproof plan: I don't wear them. I keep them in their case, on a bookshelf, in my office. Sure, I don't use them as intended, but I always know where they are.



Titanium Model Shown

THE REDESIGNED 2015 **FOCUS** SE

LEASE FOR ONLY **$215** PER MONTH @ **0%**~ APR

THAT'S LIKE **$99**‡ BI-WEEKLY

FOR **48** MONTHS WITH **$1,195** DOWN PAYMENT, OFFER EXCLUDES TAXES.

- REAR VIEW CAMERA
- 16" PAINTED ALUMINUM WHEELS
- REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY SYSTEM
- CRUISE CONTROL

2014'S #1 SELLING MID-SIZED SEDAN IN CANADA^

Titanium Model Shown

#1 SELLING SUV IN CANADA FOR THE PAST 8 YEARS¥ 2007 – 2014

Titanium Model Shown

2015 **FUSION** S

LEASE FOR ONLY **$280** PER MONTH @ **0.49%**~ APR

THAT'S LIKE **$129**‡ BI-WEEKLY

FOR **48** MONTHS WITH **$1,195** DOWN PAYMENT, OFFER EXCLUDES TAXES.

- 16" ALLOY WHEELS
- REAR-VIEW CAMERA
- CRUISE CONTROL
- SYNC® VOICE-ACTIVATED COMMUNICATIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM
- 6-SPEED SELECTSHIFT® AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

2015 **ESCAPE** SE

LEASE FOR ONLY **$280** PER MONTH @ **0%**~ APR

THAT'S LIKE **$129**‡ BI-WEEKLY

FOR **48** MONTHS WITH **$1,195** DOWN PAYMENT OFFER EXCLUDES TAXES.

- REAR VIEW CAMERA
- 17" ALLOY SPARKLE SILVER WHEELS
- SYNC® VOICE-ACTIVATED COMMUNICATIONS AND ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

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PLUS ELIGIBLE COSTCO MEMBERS RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL $1,000ϕ ON MOST NEW 2015 FORD VEHICLES

Our advertised prices include Freight, Air Tax, and PPSA (if financed or leased). Add dealer administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes, then drive away.

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Ford

Go Further

Vehicle(s) may be shown with optional equipment. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers only valid at participating dealers. Retail offers may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible rainchecklable Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. Retail offers not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives; the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). **Until April 30, 2015, lease a new 2015 Ford [Focus Sedan SE/Focus Sedan Titanium/Fusion S FWD/Fusion Titanium AWD/ Escape SE FWD 2.5L Cargo Package(200A)/Escape Titanium FWD] for up to 48 months, and get [0%/0%/0.49%/0.49%/0%/0%] APR on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease a 2015 [Focus Sedan SE/Focus Sedan Titanium/Fusion S FWD/Fusion Titanium AWD/ Escape SE FWD 2.5L Cargo Package(200A)/Escape Titanium FWD] with a value of [$21,344/$27,144/$23,499/$34,999]/[$27,104/$33,254] (after [$1,195] down payment or equivalent trade-in and $0 Manufacturer Rebate deducted and including Freight and air tax of [$665/$1665] [$1,700/$1,700] [$1,790/$1,790]) at [0%/0%/0.49%/0.49%/0%/0%] APR for up to 48 months with an optional buyout of [$15,059/$21,445] [$19,186/$30,196]/[$17,734/$31,734] monthly payment is [$280/$129]/[$280/$129] (total lease obligation is [$15,355/$21,923] [$14,655/$21,499]/[$14,655/$19,435], interest cost of leasing is [$0/$0/$307/$465]/[$0/$0/$0/$0] or [0%/0%/0.49%/0.49%/0%/0%] APR. Offers include Freight, air tax, and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges apply. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change (except in Quebec), see your local dealer for details. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Some conditions may apply. Offers may change without notice. See your dealer for complete details. Excess kilometrage charges apply: Escape, Fusion and Taurus models for up to 72 months are $0.12 per km for E-Series, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus X, Edge, Flex, Explorer, F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 20¢ per km for Expedition and Navigator, plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change (except in Quebec), see your local dealer for details. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. *Comparison payments are for reference purposes only and are calculated as follows: the monthly payment is annualized (multiplied by 12) and then divided by the comparison period (26 for bi-weekly, 52 for weekly and 365 for daily). For example ($299 X 12) / 26 bi-weekly, receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2015 Flex, Escape, Mustang (excluding 50th Anniversary, Shelby GT350), and 2014 Edge models for up to 60 months, and 2015 Focus, Fiesta, Fusion, and Taurus models for up to 72 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $25,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 60/72 months, monthly payment is $416.66/$347.22, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $25,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. ‡Based on 2007-2013 and YTD June 2014 R.L. Polk vehicle registrations data for Canada in the Large Premium Utility, Large Traditional Utility, Large Utility, Medium Premium Utility, Medium Utility, Small Premium Utility, and Small Utility segments. ^Based on year-end 2014 MSInc. retail and fleet vehicle registrations data for Canada in the mid-size segment. ¥ Offer only valid from March 3, 2015 to April 30, 2015 ("the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with an eligible Costco membership on or before February 28, 2015. Receive $1,000 towards the purchase or lease of a new 2015 Ford (excluding Fiesta, Focus, C-MAX, GT350, GT500, F-150 Raptor, 50th Anniversary Edition Mustang, and Medium Truck) model (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Eligible Vehicles of 2014 model year may qualify for the offer depending on available inventory–see dealer for details. Limit one (1) offer per each Eligible Vehicle purchase or lease, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. Applicable taxes calculated before CAD$1,000 offer is deducted. ®: Registered trademark of Price Costco International, Inc. used under license. ©2015 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. ©2015 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

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Special Delivery: Escape

What test car is Garry bringing us this week? We literally have no clue what he's bringing us until it lands in our driveway, but who are we to doubt Garry Sowerby, who has a bazillion Guinness records for around-the-world driving? That's a bazillion more than we have, after all. Come along and find out as we drive 'em, dirty 'em and shoot 'em with our phone cams. These are real-life, no-glam reviews.

JEFF MELNYCHUK WHEELBASE MEDIA

Shortly after Garry dropped off the Ford Escape, I posted a picture of it on my Facebook page.

My buddy Chad from Edmonton chimed right in with the usual concern from men about this category of vehicle.

"Don't you find it a bit girly?"

Chad still has the previous Escape, which is squarer and, according to Chad, a heckuva lot more hairy-chested.

It doesn't really matter to him that the current Escape rides and drives better than the previous version — like a sack of hammers, by comparison — nor does it matter that the interior comfort and technology takes actual human beings into account. Nope, Chad is fixated on the new model's apparent lack of a Y chromosome, its "soccer-mom" looks and oh-so-petite size.

The 2015 Ford Escape is a compact SUV. FORD

Gender appeal

I could argue against that notion all day long, easily, but it doesn't matter. I'm not the one the automakers with entries in this category need to convince. They need to convince Chad, who thinks that in their quest to cater more to women buyers that they may well have forgotten about men. Entirely.

For him, it's either something like an Escape or a 4x4 pickup or full-size sport utility with little else in between other than perhaps a GMC Terrain. The only curves there are the tires.

Me, I'm more of a towny, so I'm cool with the Escape's aptitude for shimmying around snow-narrowed lanes during the winter.

The Escape still holds a hockey team, minus the goalie, and it can be prettied up with enough leather and technology to make you think you're richer than you are.

Under the hood

The $36,000 "Titanium" test car that Garry delivered is equipped with the top engine option of the three, which is the turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder with 240 horsepower. There's a smaller 1.6-litre turbo engine (178 horsepower), as well as a base 2.5 non-turbo (168 horsepower).

There's a price to pay at the pump if you're a stab-and-steer dummy like me. I'm pretty sure I saw the fuel gauge actually dropping while driving, which had me thinking that someone might have been siphoning it out at red lights. I really wonder about "Ecoboost" and whether a small V6 would be better, smoother and cheaper to run.

There's lots to see and do in the Ford Escape. WHEELBASE MEDIA

The Ford Escape features a roomy interior. WHEELBASE MEDIA

In Sync

Otherwise, the Escape has very few knocks, even though the dash is clearly stamped with the warning label "Sync ... powered by Microsoft."

The Sync system has been absolutely pulverized in the media over the years with cracks like "you really need to pull over to turn up the stereo volume." (I just made that one up now.)

In this case, the primary functions, such as fan speed, aren't buried in layers of menus to distract you from driving, so other than figuring out how to change the music station, it's pretty easy. So far.

Luckily, I have two weeks to figure this out since Garry is about to drop off another Ford to test. Maybe Chad will think this one is more manly.

LET'S TALK

WOW: Ride and drive and engine pep; all the practical stuff; Sync works; loves gas if your foot loves speed; spaceship-y dash layout; fun powertrain with AWD.

Cargo space can be had in the Ford Escape. WHEELBASE MEDIA

HMM: It's pretty, but not pretty manly; a bit counterintuitive as some knobs, symbols and functions don't do what you think they do; auto-parallel-park takes more practice/time than actually learning to parallel park.

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metro SPORTS

Johnny Manziel rejoined the Cleveland Browns after a 70-plus day stay in rehab

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

It's not looking good at all

NBA PLAYOFFS

Raptors now must win four of next five to top Wizards

Bradley Beal poured in 28 points to lift the Wizards to a 117-106 victory over Toronto on Tuesday, sending Washington home with a 2-0 playoff series lead over the struggling Raptors.

John Wall added 26 points and 17 assists.

Lou Williams and DeMar DeRozan led Toronto with 20 points apiece, Williams' coming a day after he earned the NBA's Sixth Man Award. Jonas Valanciunas had 15 points and 10 rebounds and Patrick Patterson finished with 15.

But the Raptors were hamstrung by another horrible night from all-star point guard Kyle Lowry, who finished with just six points and four assists, and sat large chunks of the game in foul trouble.

On the heels of a dreadful shooting performance in a 93-86 Game 1 loss, the Raptors knew Tuesday that they would be better. Problem was, Washington was as well. Much better.

GAME 2 Tuesday night

WASHINGTON WIZARDS	RAPTORS
117	106

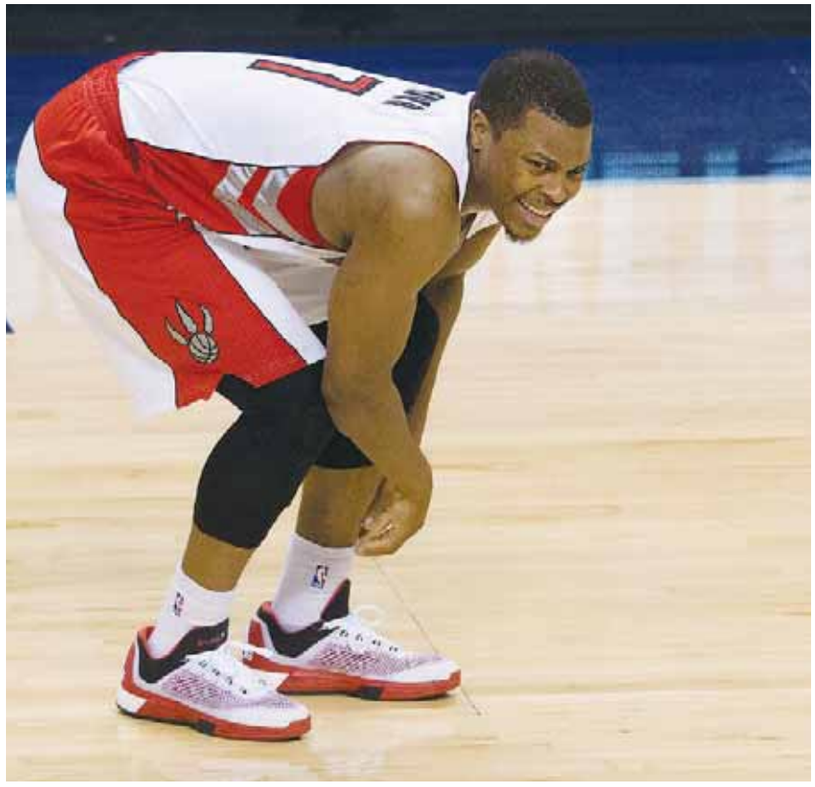
The Raptors raced out to a 10-point lead and looked strong through the first quarter. But the Wizards roared back, and led 97-75 heading into the fourth quarter in front of a disgruntled crowd at the Air Canada Centre that included popular rapper Drake.

There were thousands more unhappy fans outside, who braved the blustery weather to watch the game on the big screen in Maple Leaf Square.

The series has had drama since before the first ball was thrown up with Paul Pierce saying the Raptors didn't have the "it" factor. Beal waded into the fray Tuesday night in a halftime television interview,

"They think that we're some punks," Beal said. "They think they can push around. But we're not rolling."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Raptors star point guard Kyle Lowry, keels over in pain against the Washington Wizards in Game 2 of their first-round playoff series Tuesday in Toronto. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Red Wings take control vs. Lightning at home

Petr Mrazek made 22 saves for his first post-season shutout, and Pavel Datsyuk, Riley Sheahan and Luke Glendening scored for Detroit in a 3-0 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Tuesday night that gave the Red Wings a 2-1 lead in their first-round playoff series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edwin powers up vs. O's

Edwin Encarnacion hit two home runs and Ryan Goins chipped in with three RBIs as the Toronto Blue Jays hammered the Baltimore Orioles 13-6 on Tuesday.

Encarnacion's second homer of the night was a monster shot that landed in the fifth deck, giving the Blue Jays an 11-3 lead in the sixth. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Edwin Encarnacion watches his first home run on Tuesday THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CHAMPIONS LEAGUE NEYMAR SENDS BARCA TO SEMIS Neymar netted Barcelona's first goal in its 3-1 first-leg win last week in Paris, and the Brazil striker struck in the 14th and 34th minutes Tuesday as Barcelona crushed PSG's already slim hopes of a quarter-final comeback. Barcelona won 2-0 on Tuesday and 5-1 on aggregate. JOSEP LAGO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN MUNICH BAYERN OUTMUSCLES PORTO Bayern Munich topped Porto 6-1 to reach its fourth consecutive Champions League semifinal and give coach Pep Guardiola an emphatic win in his 100th match in charge of the German powerhouse. Robert Lewandowski scored twice as the five-time champions roared back from a 3-1 defeat in the first leg last week to advance 7-4 on aggregate. GUENTER SCHIFFMANN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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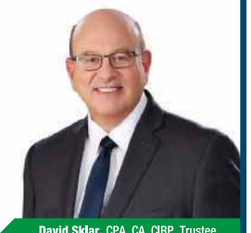

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RECIPE Italian Grilled Chicken Sandwiches with Pesto-Cheese

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes

Ingredients
Serves 6
- 2 Tbsp pesto
- 2 Tbsp light mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup smooth ricotta cheese
- 3 Tbsp light cream cheese, softened
- 1/3 cup crumbled goat cheese (about 1 1/2 oz)
- 1 whole Italian round loaf of bread (about 1 1/4 lb; about 12 inches across)
- 8 oz skinless boneless chicken breasts (about 2 breasts),pounded flat
- 1 roasted red pepper, thinly sliced
- 2 cups shredded romaine lettuce
- 2 medium plum tomatoes, sliced and seeded
- 1/3 cup diced red onion
- 1/3 cup chopped black olives
- pinch of salt and pepper

Directions
1. To make the pesto-cheese sauce: combine the pesto, mayonnaise, ricotta, cream cheese and goat cheese in a food processor and purée until smooth.

2. Cut the loaf of bread in half horizontally and pull out as much of the bread as possible, leaving only the crust.

3. In a nonstick grill pan or skillet lightly coated with cooking spray, cook the chicken breast just until no longer pink, about 5 minutes. Cool, then slice thinly.

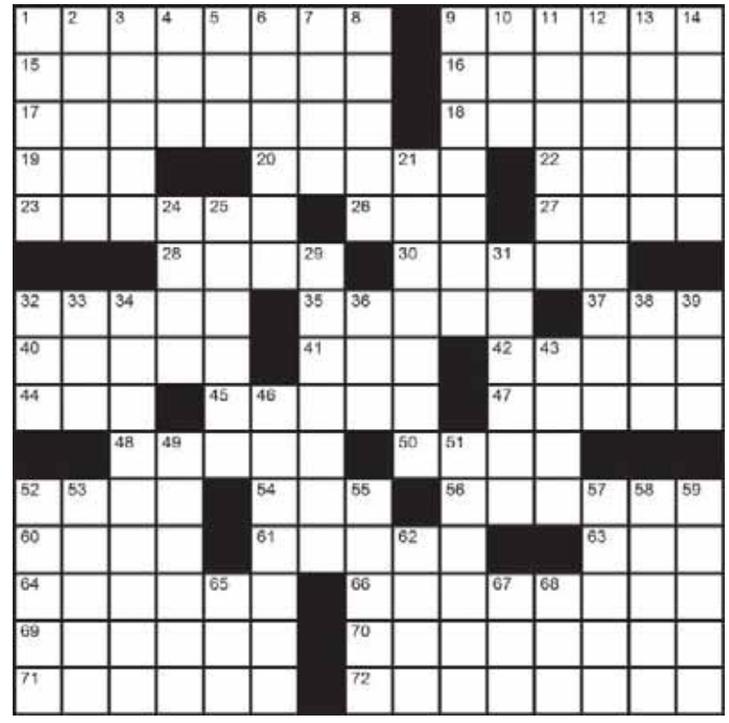
4. Spread the pesto-cheese sauce over both the bottom and the top half of the loaf. Layer the bottom half with the chicken, roasted red pepper strips, lettuce, tomatoes, onion, olives, salt and pepper. Top with the top half of the loaf and cut into 6 sandwiches.

Nutritional information per serving (1 sandwich)
- Calories 345
- Protein 17 g
- Carbohydrates 53 g
- Fibre 4.5 g
- Total fat 8.3 g
- Saturated fat 3.7 g
- Cholesterol 20 mg
- Sodium 560 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. April 22nd since 1970: 2 wds.
9. Hip-Hop label: 2 wds.
15. South Africa's administrative capital
16. Like Seth Meyers' show: 2 wds.
17. Dependable/valiant
18. Someone doing repo work
19. Petroleum
20. Complaints
22. Russian ruler
23. Alcoholic drink of Mexico, variantly
26. Six: Italian
27. Ms. Perry
28. 'Pseud' suffix
30. Within the law
32. Think something is groovy again
35. Extreme
37. Sporty bike
40. Greenland town with an American airbase
41. __-for-tat
42. Second 'R.' of J.R.R. Tolkien
44. Tom Clancy subs novel
45. Tenor, Helmut __
47. Joy of Cooking author, __ __. Rombauer
48. Sweden's money
50. Whispery word
52. Mythical Hun king
54. Canada Revenue Agency's acronym, in French
56. Hubby's spouse, e.g.: 2 wds.
60. Believability/reputation, briefly
61. Hamilton-born actress Ms. Katic
63. "Am _ __ next?" (Performer's query)
64. Delinquent in duty
66. Spring clothing hue: 2 wds.
69. "Forward!", in Florence
70. Bryan __, Canadian host on HGTV
71. Overly-feasts
72. Terminus: 2 wds.

DOWN
1. __ Downs (Horse racecourse in England)
2. Bandleader Mr. Shaw
3. "For __??" (Are you serious?, slang-style)
4. Sum, shortly
5. What way?
6. In a dullsville manner
7. 'Million' suffix
8. 'Harry Potter' movies director David
9. Personnel record
10. Mariner's dir.
11. "My Friend __" (TV Western of the 1950s)
12. Output for Canadian musician Kirk MacDonald: 2 wds.
13. Bothered: 2 wds.
14. Jolly
21. __ __ marker
24. Spring
25. Shakespeare: Measure for Measure antagonist
29. __ Conservatory (Edmonton's horticulture-attraction-in-pyramids)
31. Gaudy
32. Some CFL linemen [abbr.]
33. Bob & Doug sounds
34. Brian __ (American stand-up/host/actor)
36. Aglow
38. Justin Timberlake's "Cry __ _ River"
39. Clothing sizes, e.g.
43. Single-named Ziegfeld Follies designer
46. Jackie Kennedy's married name in 1968
49. Manitoba: __ Mountain National Park
51. __ off (Averted)
52. Behaving like _ __ (Grouch's pastime)
53. Famed fountain in Rome
55. "Now it __ __ told."
57. __ Vanilli
58. Cathedral city in northern France
59. Hagar the Horrible's dog
62. Flatbread choice
65. Canonized Mlle.
67. "Bingo."
68. Canuck financial inst.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Just because someone seems to know what they are talking about does not mean you have to trust them – especially when it is your money that is on the line. Make sure you know the risks involved before signing up to anything today.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will have plenty to say for yourself today and as far as some people are concerned you are saying too much. But that's too bad because you have kept your thoughts to yourself long enough – now you intend to make up for lost time.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Mercury, your ruler, links nicely with both Mars and Pluto today, so chances are you will be assertive in the extreme. Just be careful you don't create confrontations where none need to exist.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You have every right to believe what you believe and you must make sure others know that. You must also let them know that you have no intention of changing your viewpoint.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
People expect you to be bold and brash, so don't let them down. But don't be too enamoured of your own brilliance or you may put them off. If you want to impress important people you need to get the right balance between ambition and humility.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You can expect something wonderful to happen today. Most likely news from afar will inspire you to believe that the good days are back at last and it won't be long before there is even more evidence of that. Start planning your next vacation.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You know exactly what you should be doing, even though you might find it hard to explain to others why you are doing it. But don't let it worry you. Partners and loved ones will soon see there is method in your apparent madness.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Put others first today and don't worry if, in doing so, you fall behind in your schedule. Mercury in your opposite sign means you can easily persuade work colleagues to help you catch up later on.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Like it or not you will have to follow the rules today, because if you deviate from what others think is permissible you could get yourself in a whole load of trouble.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The Sun and Mars are all working in your favour at the moment, so decide what it is you most want to accomplish then go all out to make it happen. Affairs of the heart are also well starred.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will have words with a friend today and those words may have to be harsh. The fact is they have stepped over the line and need to be reminded they have obligations that cannot be ignored.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Make sure your opinions are heard over the next 24 hours, because if you don't speak up you could find that matters you have an interest in move in a direction you don't want them to go.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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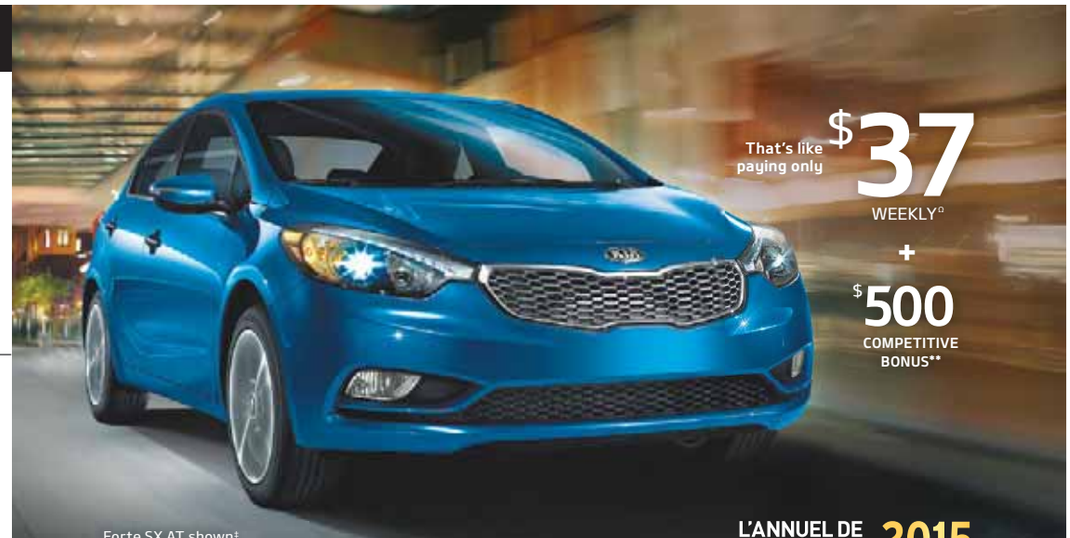

That's like paying only **$37** WEEKLY¤

+$500 COMPETITIVE BONUS**

Forte SX AT shown‡
Cash purchase price $28,364

CLEF D'OR "BEST IN CLASS" L'ANNUEL DE L'AUTOMOBILE **2015**

2015 FORTE LX MT

HWY / CITY 100KM^: 6.1L/8.8L

LEASE FROM **$160**¤ MONTHLY WITH **$0** DOWN AT **0%** APR FOR 60 MONTHS¤

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and an $800 lease credit*. Consumers can elect to take an additional 10,000 km allowance in lieu of the lease credit. Offer based on new 2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F) with a selling price of $17,564¤. Excludes HST.

2015 RIO 5-DOOR LX MT

CLEF D'OR "BEST IN CLASS" L'ANNUEL DE L'AUTOMOBILE 2015

That's like paying only **$34** WEEKLY¤

Rio5 SX with Navigation shown‡
Cash purchase price $24,464

HWY / CITY 100KM^: 6.3L/8.8L

LEASE FROM **$149**¤ MONTHLY WITH **$0** DOWN AT **0%** APR FOR 60 MONTHS¤

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $900 lease credit*. Consumers can elect to take an additional 11,250 km allowance in lieu of the lease credit. Offer based on new 2015 Rio5 LX MT (RO551F) with a selling price of $16,064¤. Excludes HST.

2015 SOUL 1.6L LX MT

BEST RESIDUAL VALUE IN ITS CLASS — 2015 alg RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD

That's like paying only **$40** WEEKLY¤

Soul SX Luxury shown‡
Cash purchase price $29,144

HWY / CITY 100KM^: 7.8L/9.9L

LEASE FROM **$173**¤ MONTHLY WITH **$0** DOWN AT **0.9%** APR FOR 60 MONTHS¤

Offer includes delivery, destination and fees. Offer based on new Soul 1.6L LX MT (SO551F) with a selling price of $18,744¤. Excludes HST.

2015 SORENTO FINAL CLEAROUT!

Sorento SX AT AWD 7-Seat shown‡
Cash purchase price $43,944 – HWY / CITY 100KM^: 8.7L/11.8L

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$22,994**∞

INCLUDES A CASH CREDIT OF **$5,850***

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and $5,850 in cash credit*. Offer based on new 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) with at selling price of $28,844∞. Excludes HST.

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Offer(s) available on select new 2015 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery from April 1 to 30, 2015. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes other taxes, licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. ¤Lease payments must be made on a monthly or bi-weekly basis but cannot be made on a weekly basis. Weekly lease payments are for advertising purposes only. **Representative Leasing Example: Lease offer available on approved credit (OAC), on new 2015 Rio5 LX MT (RO551F)/2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F)/2015 Soul 1.6L LX MT (SO551F) with a selling price of $16,064/$17,564/$18,744 is based on monthly payments of $149/$160/$173 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,535/$1,535/$1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, and A/C tax ($100, where applicable) for 60 months at 0%/0%/0.9% with a $0 down payment/equivalent trade, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Offer also includes a lease credit of $900/$800/$0. Total lease obligation is $8,912/$9,577/$10,385 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $6,252/$7,187/$8,981. Lease has 16,000 km/yr allowance (other packages available and $0.12/km for excess kilometres). Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends April 30, 2015. *Lease credit for 2015 Rio5 LX MT (RO551F)/2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F) is $900/$800 and available on lease offer only. Consumers can elect to take an additional 11,250 km/10,000 km allowance in lieu of the lease credit. Lease credit varies by model/trim and is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. **$500 Competitive Bonus offer available on the retail purchase/lease of any new 2015 Forte, 2015 Forte Koup, 2015 Forte5, 2015 Rondo and 2015 Optima from a participating dealer upon proof of current ownership/lease of a select competitive cross-over vehicle. Competitive models include specific VW, Toyota, Nissan, Mazda, Hyundai, Honda, GM, Ford and Chrysler vehicles. Some conditions apply. See your dealer or kia.ca for complete details. ***Cash purchase price for the new 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) is $22,994 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, A/C tax ($100, where applicable) and a cash credit of $5,850. Dealer may sell for less. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends April 30, 2015. •Cash purchase credit for 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) is $5,850 and available on cash purchase offer only. Cash purchase credit varies by model/trim and is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. ^Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2015 Forte SX (FO748F)/2015 Rio5 SX with Navigation (RO759F)/2015 Soul SX Luxury (SO758E)/2015 Sorento SX V6 AWD (SR75XF) is $26,695/$22,795/$27,195/$42,095. ^Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2015 Rio LX+ ECO AT/2015 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl AT/2015 Soul 2.0L GDI 4-cyl MT/2015 Sorento LX 2.4L GDI 4-cyl AT. These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 2015 Kia Rio and Forte awarded the Clef d'or Best in Class by L'Annuel de l'automobile 2015. Visit www.annuelauto.com for full details. 2015 Kia Soul awarded ALG Residual Value Award for highest resale value in its class. Based on ALG's residual value forecast for the 2015 model year. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.